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# A REMINISCENT HISTORY

OF

NORTHERN WEST VIRGINIA.

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CHICAGO:  
GOODSPEED BROTHERS, PUBLISHERS.

1895.






## PREFACE.

THE Publishers, with much pleasure, present this beautiful volume to their friends and patrons for whom it is prepared. It will be found to be a valuable work, full of interesting personal and historical reminiscences of many of the leading families and many of the most important occurrences in the eventful past of Northern West Virginia. Every individual or family sketch was carefully type-written and submitted by mail, or written with pencil and submitted in person by our representative, to a member of the family, and, in nearly every instance, was corrected and promptly returned to the Publishers, thus insuring almost absolute accuracy. If mistakes are found in the few sketches that were not returned, the Publishers, though not to blame, stand ready, as is their custom, to correct the same by special errata sheet to be sent to every subscriber. The Publishers wish to call special attention to the fact that, in spite of the hard times and a limited patronage, they have issued a work fully up to their promises and one of high merit. They also express their thanks to the Wheeling Intelligencer, Hon. George W. Atkinson, the press throughout the northern portion of the state, and to many churches, schools, societies and individuals for valuable aid and encouragement. The illustrations will be found to add very materially to the value of the book and should have been inserted in much greater number. We are satisfied our work will bear the closest scrutiny and sustain our well-known reputation for accuracy and fidelity.

THE PUBLISHERS.



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# A REMINISCENT HISTORY OF NORTHERN WEST VIRGINIA.

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## CHAPTER I.

### WEST VIRGINIA.\*

The "Old Dominion" withdrew from the Union April 19, 1861. On the 11th of the following May, at the call of a large number of citizens who did not believe that a State could sever its relations from the General Government, delegates from twenty-five counties west of the Allegheny Mountains met in the city of Wheeling, adopted a series of resolutions in opposition to secession, and providing for a general convention of all the counties that desired to remain in the Union. June 11th was the day agreed upon for holding the proposed convention, and a general election was held May 23d for the choosing of delegates to said convention. On that day representatives from forty counties lying west of the Blue Ridge Mountains assembled at Wheeling and inaugurated measures looking to the establishment of a provisional government.

A general election was ordered, and on the 2d of July a Legislature convened at Wheeling, elected two United States Senators (Hons. W. T. Willey and John S. Carlile), passed a stay law, and directed the expenditure of \$200,000 for the administration of the State Government, and a like sum for carrying on the war for the preservation of the Union. The 24th of the following October the action of the Legislature was almost unanimously indorsed by the people, at an election in which they were allowed to express their opinions upon these grave questions—the affirmative vote being 18,408, and the negative 781.

\*From "Prominent Men of West Virginia," by permission of author, Geo. W. Atkinson, LL. D.

A constitutional convention met in the city of Wheeling, November 26, 1861. A constitution for the State was framed, which was subsequently ratified by the legal voters of the forty-eight counties, May 3, 1862. Ten days later the Legislature of the Restored Government of Virginia gave its consent for the formation of a new State out of the territory of the Old Commonwealth, to be called "West Virginia." The population of the new State was 273,737 white, 1,110 free colored, and 6,810 slaves, making a total of 281,657 souls. The present population is about 800,000, all free.

The Congress of the United States admitted West Virginia into the great sisterhood of States; and on the 31st of December, 1862, President Lincoln approved the action of Congress, and West Virginia accordingly became one of the regularly constituted States of the American Union. The following forty-eight counties comprised the original territory of the State: Barbour, Boone, Braxton, Brooke, Cabell, Calhoun, Clay, Doddridge, Fayette, Gilmer, Greenbrier, Hancock, Hampshire, Hardy, Harrison, Jackson, Kanawha, Lewis, Logan, Mason, Marshall, Mercer, Monroe, Marion, Monongalia, Morgan, McDowell, Nicholas, Ohio, Pleasants, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Preston, Putnam, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Roane, Taylor, Tucker, Tyler, Upshur, Wayne, Webster, Wetzel, Wirt, Wood, Wyoming. Subsequently, Berkeley and Jefferson Counties were added, after a protracted lawsuit, which had been appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States. Since then four new counties have been established, to wit: Lincoln, Mineral, Grant and Summers. These fifty-four counties embrace an area of twenty-four thousand square miles of valleys, hills and mountain ranges.

In 1872 a second constitutional convention was held at Charleston, Kanawha County, and a new constitution was framed, which was regularly ratified by the people at the October election of that year. Under this constitution the Governor, who is the chief executive officer of the State, and all other State officers are elected quadrennially. The Legislature is chosen by the people every two years, and holds biennial sessions at the capital of the State. The judicial system includes Circuit Courts and a Supreme Court of Appeals, composed of four judges, elected for twelve years, one retiring every four years. The fiscal affairs of the counties are managed by Boards of Commissioners, elected every two years.

Francis H. Pierpont, of Marion County, was chosen Governor of the Restored Government of Virginia, and Daniel Polsley, of Mason County, Lieutenant-Governor. Arthur I. Boreman, of Wood County, was the first Governor of West Virginia. \* \* \* \* \*



## EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

White settlements were made in what is now West Virginia many years before the beginning of the Revolutionary War. Pioneers entered the Greenbrier Valley and established a blockhouse at Lewisburg, the present seat of justice of that historic county. Gradually the savages were driven toward the Ohio River, and settlements were made in Kanawha County in 1772, and at Point Pleasant, Mason County, in 1774. Berkeley, Monongalia, Harrison and Ohio Counties were settled by the whites about the same time that the historic Lewis family and their friends entered the Greenbrier Valley. Fort Henry, at Wheeling, for more than a quarter of a century, was one of the most noted points on the frontier. It would require a volume to narrate even the principal events of the early history of West Virginia, which of course cannot be noted here.

The early settlers of West Virginia principally came from the eastern portion of Virginia, and their descendants constitute a majority of our population of to-day. They are a hardy, honest, urbane people, possessing tact and sagacity; and although not, in some respects, as enterprising perhaps as the inhabitants of the States east of us, they are nevertheless possessed of good judgment, and, on the whole, are a thorough-going people.

## LOCATION.

Perhaps no State in the Union possesses a better geographical location than West Virginia. The Ohio River sweeps along nearly three hundred miles of its western border, offering cheap transportation for the products of that most wonderful valley. Along its northern boundary lie the coal, iron, oil, and gas deposits of Pennsylvania. Wheeling, the principal city of the State, is only sixty-six miles, by rail, from Pittsburgh, the great iron manufacturing center of the New World; 353 miles from Washington, 137 miles from Cleveland, and 491 miles from Chicago. Parkersburg is but 200 miles from Cincinnati, and Charleston—the metropolis of the Great Kanawha Valley—is 250 miles east of Cincinnati by water, and but little more than 200 miles by rail. Huntington, one of the most flourishing cities in the State, is situated upon the Ohio River, 150 miles from the “Queen City of the West.”

The extreme eastern portion of West Virginia is but eighty-one miles from Baltimore, and only sixty miles from the Capital of the Republic. With an elevation above the malarial lowlands West and South, never

rising above the level of corn production, and within a few hours of the great cities west of us and the sea to the eastward, surely it ought not to want for industry, wealth and population.

#### FERTILITY.

West Virginia is not, *per se*, an agricultural State, yet its farm lands embrace about four-fifths of its area, or about eleven million acres, or a little more than seventeen thousand square miles. The ground, outside of the valleys and along the tops of the hills, is rough and rather difficult to cultivate, but the soil is rich and produces abundant crops. The best and highest cultivated sections yield as much as eighty bushels of corn, forty bushels of wheat, and fifty bushels of oats to the acre. The average, however, is considerably below these figures. The capability of the productiveness of West Virginia farm lands, with the exception of the Ohio and Great Kanawha Valleys, is comparatively unknown. The soils run through almost every grade of fertility, from the argillaceous to the silicious; but a generous loam with a sub-stratum of clay, slate or sandstone generally predominates. In some of the counties calcareous soil predominates, which not only produces all the cereals and lighter grains in abundance, but yields heavy crops of grasses that are specially valuable for grazing purposes.

A more specific analysis of the different kinds of soil found within the State will show: 1. Clay, which is ordinarily composed of about seventy-five per cent. of clay, and the remaining twenty-five per cent. of sand, calcareous, ferruginous, vegetable and other matters. 2. Sand, which contains a little more than seventy-five per cent. of sand, and the remainder of clay, calcareous, ferruginous and other matters. This character of soil is weaker and shorter lived than the ordinary clay above described, but it is much easier cultivated. 3. Loams, which possess about equal proportions of clay and sand and their usual components. These are the most fertile lands we have, for the reason that they contain all the elements needed by the plants to give them vigorous growth and a large product. 4. Calcareous, which, as the name indicates, is principally lime, but is mixed with clay, sand and other matter. As already stated, this class of soil is best suited for the production of grasses. 5. Alluviums, or that class of lands built up from the surface washings of hill-sides, overflows of creeks and rivers and by slow surface action. These lands are usually very productive. Many of our river bottoms, regularly enriched by the overflow of sediment, have been cultivated without rest for a hundred years, and they still yield good crops.

Even with the present systems of cultivation, that in most portions of the State are far behind the age, the soils throughout West Virginia yield remunerative crops. Agriculture, however, is rapidly advancing; and the day is not distant when our hills and valleys will be in a high state of cultivation, and will yield abundant harvests to those that till them.

#### STOCK RAISING.

Stock raising in West Virginia has been profitably carried on for many years. Pasturage is generally good from the middle of April to the first of November; and when the Autumns are favorable for grasses, and the snows not deep, grazing is kept up all Winter. Timothy and clover, which are indigenous to every county, yield abundantly, and are laid aside, at a merely nominal expense, for feed for stock during the Winter season. From ten to fifteen dollars per head, in a single year, is not an unusual profit on a bullock.

In a large number of counties blue grass naturally appears in a short time after the undergrowths are cleared out of the forests. Two acres of blue grass land are ample for pasture purposes for a bullock and rarely fail to keep him in good condition. In blue grass sections farmers find it more profitable to depasture their land than to plow it and cultivate the cereals. For cattle raising West Virginia is unsurpassed, except by the southwestern portion of the Republic, where stock shift for themselves the year round.

Sheep husbandry is also a growing industry in this State and is becoming more and more profitable every year. The mountain regions appear to be especially adapted to this business. The mildness of the climate and the excellence of mountain pastures are conditions that favor superior wool and mutton. The entire State is waking up to a realization of its peculiar adaptation to the growing of mutton and wool. Careful comparisons of the cost of wintering sheep and indeed all kinds of stock in West Virginia and other States in this latitude show that our State is considerably below any of them. This may be accounted for in two ways: First, our feeding period is shorter than any of them, and second, the superior productiveness of the soil. Sheep husbandry in the not distant future, for these and other reasons, will become one of the most remunerative pursuits of our people.

#### ELEVATION.

West Virginia lies mainly between the parallels of 37 and 40 degrees of latitude. It is therefore not exposed to the excessive heat of Summer or

the extreme cold of Winter peculiar to a majority of the States of the Union. The rainfall is usually regular and droughts are uncommon. The mountain ranges are not high enough to materially affect the climate. There is no point within the State where perpetual snow can be found. The average height of the Allegheny chain of mountains, which splits the State from north to south, is about 2,500 feet. The following table shows the exact altitude of this mountain range, at the points named, and also of several notable points west of the mountains:

Height in latitude 37 degrees.....	2,650 feet
Height at Terra Alta.....	2,620 feet
Height of Hay Stack Knob, Randolph county.....	2,800 feet
Height at White Sulphur Springs, Greenbrier county.....	2,000 feet
Height of Panther Knob, Pendleton county.....	4,000 feet
Height of sources of Cheat and Greenbrier rivers.....	2,400 feet
Height of Big Sewell, Fayette county.....	3,500 feet
Height of Flat Top, Mercer county.....	2,800 feet
Height of Keeney's Knob, Summers county.....	3,700 feet
Height of Blue Ridge at Harper's Ferry.....	1,800 feet
Elevation of Cheat river valley.....	1,375 feet
Elevation of mouth at Greenbrier river.....	1,330 feet
Elevation of Tygart's Valley river.....	1,000 feet
Elevation of Ohio River at Pennsylvania line.....	675 feet
Elevation of Ohio River at Wheeling.....	645 feet
Elevation of Ohio River at Point Pleasant.....	509 feet
Elevation of Ohio River at Kentucky line.....	550 feet
Elevation of Great Kanawha river at Charleston.....	600 feet

A line drawn parallel to the general course of the Ohio River, and passing across the Great Kanawha Valley a few miles east of Charleston, would cover a region of country elevated from 1,200 to 1,300 feet above tide water. A second line drawn in the same general direction some fifty miles east of the former one would pass over an elevation of 1,600 to 1,700 feet. A third line eighty miles still farther east would cover an altitude of 2,600 to 2,700 feet; and a fourth line passing over the plateau of Randolph, Greenbrier and Monroe Counties would indicate an elevation of 2,000 to 2,200 feet above the level of the sea.

The hills that hem in the valley of the Ohio on either side vary in height from 200 to 400 feet. Leaving the Ohio and traveling eastward up any of the rivers whose sources are in or beyond the Allegheny Mountains, the hills rise gradually from 200 feet in the Ohio Valley to nearly 2,000 feet above the level of these streams at their sources. Take for illustration the Great Kanawha, the largest river in the State. At its confluence with the

Ohio, the hills do not rise over 200 feet above the river level. At Charleston, sixty miles from its mouth, they have attained the height of 700 feet. Seventeen miles farther up the river, they have grown to 800 feet. At the Great Falls, thirty-six miles above Charleston, their altitude is 1,100 feet; and at and near Quinnimont, about thirty-five miles above the falls, they tower well nigh 2,000 feet above the level of the stream. Only a few miles back from the river at and above Quinnimont, there are peaks over 500 feet higher than those along the river valley. What is true of the Great Kanawha and its continuation—New River—is also true of all the other water courses in the State, though perhaps not quite to the same extent. Go where you may, you are confronted with grand mountains towering in the sunlight, that have withstood the storms of centuries, and granite peaks that will stand amid the sunshine of millennial glory.

#### CLIMATE.

The climate varies somewhat in different portions of West Virginia. The tier of counties bordering along the Ohio Valley, and those lying east of the Allegheny Mountains, have very much the same character of climate. This may be accounted for from the fact that they are very much lower than the remainder of the State, and as the slope is gradually downward from the Appalachian chain of mountains to the deep river valleys, the climate is thereby necessarily more or less affected. The tier of counties running in a southwesterly and a northeasterly direction, back some seventy-five to one hundred miles from the Ohio River, and extending to the spurs of the Alleghenies, forming an extensive plateau, differ somewhat in climatology from the lowlands on either side of the mountains. Along this plateau there is more rainfall, and, necessarily, a greater humidity; the seasons are also a trifle shorter, and frosts and snows are more frequent. The mountain tier of counties, extending from the Pennsylvania line to the Virginia border, possess a climate materially different from those sections already described. Their Spring and Autumn seasons are much shorter, snows are deeper and more frequent, the air in Summer is much dryer, and the wind currents are stronger and more frequent than in the flatter sections on either side of the Alleghenies.

Temperature is influenced by both latitude and elevation. For the same elevation, the extreme southern portion of the State on the fortieth parallel, and the extreme northern portion on the thirty-seventh parallel, there will be a variation of three degrees in the mean annual temperature. An examination of the isothermal lines will show the mean temperature of

West Virginia to be lower than any other locality in the same latitude east of the Missouri River. The line of 52 degrees passes through the middle of the State, the extreme isothermals on either side being 50 and 54 degrees. The greater altitude of the mountainous portions of the State, of course, renders the mean temperature lower than the valley sections. If we average this difference of altitude at say 1,500 feet, there would be a lowering of the mean annual temperature of about four and a half degrees on the same parallel of latitude. This being true, the average mean temperature of Charleston would be about the same as Cincinnati, while the average at Lewisburg, standing on the plateau near the summit of the Alleghenies, would be about the same as Philadelphia.

The average range of the thermometer for the Spring months in West Virginia will not vary much from 51 degrees; for the Summer, 71; for the Fall, 53, and for the Winter, 32. The yearly average is about 52 degrees. The highest temperature usually ranges from 90 to 98, and the lowest from 15 to 18 degrees below zero. The extreme range, so far as any record shows that has thus far been kept, has never been above 119 degrees. The greatest fluctuations of temperature are usually in February, and the least in July and August. It is an uncommon occurrence for the temperature to fall below zero, and still more uncommon for it to rise above 90 degrees on the Fahrenheit thermometer.

#### RAINFALL.

The regularity of rainfall, and its general distribution throughout every portion of the State, is calculated to render West Virginia a desirable locality as a place of residence, especially for those that are engaged in agriculture, fruit growing, or stock husbandry. Regular showers follow the opening of the Spring season, and a fortnight rarely passes throughout the Summer and Autumn without more or less rainfall. The Summer seasons, although less humid than any adjacent State, are rarely subject to droughts of more than a month's duration.

The average annual rainfall throughout West Virginia varies from thirty-two to thirty-nine inches. The western shore of Lake Erie is the only region in the vicinity of West Virginia that exhibits a like regular humidity.

The rainfall west of the Allegheny Mountains is usually precipitated by a southwest wind, but many of the heaviest rain storms come from the West and South. Heavy rains rarely come from the North in either Winter or Summer. The average number of rainy days in a year is eighty-

six; the lowest record in a large number of years was forty-four days, and the highest one hundred and thirteen days. The copiousness of precipitation is usually about the same in all seasons. In Summer the rains, though not quite so frequent, are slightly heavier than in Winter. The average rainfall in a day is 0.50 inches. The heaviest rainfall in any single day for fifty years was July 3, 1844, when the gauge showed 4.25. The next highest record was 3.5 inches, on December 10, 1847. It is therefore no uncommon occurrence for heavy rains to fall in midwinter as well as midsummer.

West Virginia does not lie within the "snow belt;" and yet, during every Winter snow covers the ground—not very deep, of course—for many weeks. Our snows are usually very light, and, therefore, do not remain long upon the ground. Others soon take their places, and the result is a white carpet upon the earth during a large portion of the Winter season. Deep snows, except upon the high mountains, are quite uncommon. The deepest snow west of the Alleghenies that we have any record of was fifteen inches, which fell December 14, 1833. Another, almost as deep, occurred in January, 1883. It is a rare occurrence for snow to appear before the first of November, or later than April 1st.

The precipitation of rain and snow could be much greater than they have ever been in this rugged mountain State, without in the least endangering the health of the people. The absolute absence of all marshes, bogs and the like, coupled with the undulating, not to say hilly character of every portion of the State, render it next to impossible for malaria to breed and flourish, if rain were to fall three out of every four days in the year. Only those persons that have resided in sections of country where it rains but occasionally, or falls day after day in great quantities during periods called "the rainy season," can appreciate the delightful distribution of moisture and rain peculiar to our "Switzerland of America."

#### GEOLOGY.

The rocks that underlie the soil form the materials out of which the surface features have been carved; and in the rocks are written, in imperishable characters, the history of our lands. We shall notice, but briefly, the more important geologic formations of West Virginia that have had the most influence upon its topography, and must continue to affect the character of the soil for ages to come. Professor Fontaine classifies these formations in the following order:

1. The Upper Barren Measures, and Productive Coals.—Wherever these

measures are found, they are mainly soft, crumbling rocks, such as shales and shaly sand stones that are easily worn away by rains and running streams. They are much thicker in the northern than the southern portion of the State. Because of their soft texture they give way under rainfalls, and by this means are formed high conical, or rounded hills, with broad, flat summits, and a great number of branches and shallow creeks, with but little level land along their banks.

2. The Lower Barren Measures and Productive Coals.—These do not differ materially from the series that immediately overlie them in the northern portion of the State, only in that they are thinner. In the southern portion, however, their thickness is greatly increased. But not only is this true in regard to thickness—toward the lower portion of it, there is much larger proportion of firm, massive sand stone.

3. The Conglomerate Series.—This series, in the northern part of the State, is quite thin, and is deeply buried under the Productive Coal Measures. It has an important influence on the surface contours, entering mainly into the mountain ridges where it becomes principally massive sand stone. In the southern section it is much thicker, and is elevated to the surface over broad areas. It there has a three-fold structure, namely: Massive sand stone at the top and bottom, with shaly and easily eroded strata in the center.

4. The Umbral Shales and Limestone.—Immediately underlying the conglomerate series is the umbral shales, and directly under it is the umbral limestone. Inasmuch as these formations are much softer than the conglomerate, the territory having them upon its surface is therefore much lower than those sections occupied by the conglomerate.

5. The Vespertine Shales.—This strata is a three-fold group, composed at the base of coarse sand stone and conglomerates; in the middle of gray, flaggy sand stones, with a small amount of coal, and on the top, crumbling red shales that are easily broken down and removed. The lower and middle strata are rarely found on the surface, but the upper red shales are of common occurrence, especially in the southeastern portion of the State. These shales, because of the close resemblance to the umbral series, have frequently been confounded with the latter.

6. Carboniferous.—This overspreads a very large portion of the State's area. The coal measures must rest upon a well-marked series of rocks, known as the great conglomerate. The anti-clinals or upheavals that divide the West Virginia coal fields into basins, are more marked in the northern than in the southern portion of the State. In the North the anti-clinal axes and rock beds are folded, while in the South, the upheavals are so gentle



that, although they may have flattened the strata somewhat, they have not reversed the dip of the coal measures as has been done in the northern basin.

#### SCENERY.

In no State east of the Rocky Mountains is West Virginia surpassed in the beauty and grandeur of its scenery. The deep valleys, sloping hillsides, winding rivers, sparkling cascades, birds of rare and rich plumage, the sunshine with the radiance of gold, all unite to charm the eye and excite the imagination. To cast the eye in any direction is like a look into a kaleidoscope—you see new beauties every time you look. And when one stands upon the summit of one of our lofty peaks and looks out upon the vast and varying scenes around him he is enraptured with the panorama that opens up before him. Surely wilder and grander scenery than this is rarely found on this or any other Continent.

Travelers over the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad have been enchanted by the grand views looking northward through the Cheat River gorges, and have been thrilled as the cars dashed down the mountain side at the rate of thirty miles an hour; and then, as they wind their way around the short curves, driving eastward up the heavy grade to the summit of the Alleghenies at Terra Alta, the view to the southward changes into both beauty and grandeur. A more charming landscape than this latter is rarely seen. But grander by far than the Cheat River gorges and Upper Allegheny scenery, are the canyons of the New River along the line of the Newport News & Mississippi Valley Railway. For fifty miles, from Hinton, Summers County, to the Great Falls of the Kanawha, in Fayette County, the deep, seething, foaming river rushes down through rugged gorges with tremendous power, sweeping everything before it. The mountains on either side are almost perpendicular, presenting rugged cliffs with projecting crags, towering two thousand feet above the level of the river, presenting a picture, at times, indeed awful to behold.

Men cross the Atlantic Ocean in search of attractive scenes never thinking that we have at home, along our great iron pathways, in both grandeur and beauty, the equal of anything in Nature's Garden that can be found on the Continent of Europe. "See Naples and die" has been a trite saying for generations, but better advice to our friends in other States is, see West Virginia's grand mountains and beautiful valleys and live. \* \* \* \* \*

#### WATER POWER.

West Virginia is peculiarly fortunate in the distribution of water power as a motor for machinery. There is no county in the entire State that does

not offer peculiar advantages in this direction. Along New River alone, from the mouth of the Greenbrier to the Great Falls, there is water power enough wasted every day—because no part of it is utilized—to run all the spindles in New England. For more than fifty miles this great river rushes down through gorges and canyons with tremendous force; and along its banks are sites for thousands of factories and mills that could scarcely be bettered on the globe.

New River is particularly mentioned because it is the largest river in the State, and Nature seems to have designed it as a never-failing motor for the wheels of industry; but every river within our territory also offers superior water power advantages. There will come a time when this vast waste of motive power will be husbanded—when points like the Falls of the Great Kanawha, and Harper's Ferry on the Potomac, will be manufacturing centers wholly built up by water power that has been wasting since the world was created.

#### TIMBER.

We hazard nothing in stating that in no other portion of the country containing the same number of square miles of area can there be found a greater variety of timber of the same extent and quality than exists in West Virginia. All varieties common to this latitude are found in every portion of the State; but the different varieties of oak predominate. A superior quality of wild cherry, walnut and butternut abound on the alluvial and richer soils. White and yellow poplar are found upon almost every hillside and are principally sought for lumber. White pine abounds in certain localities in grand forests that appear practically inexhaustible. Black (pitch) pine, cedar, ash, sugar maple, white and red hickory, hemlock, spruce, sassafras, birch, beech, sycamore, and the minor and less valuable species than these we have enumerated are also found in sufficient supply.

It is estimated that there are to-day in West Virginia nine million acres of land in original forests. There are in some of the interior counties immense primeval forests that are strangers to the woodman's axe or the saw of the lumberman. It is not uncommon to see poplars from three to eight feet in diameter and sixty feet to the first limb. Oaks are not so large, but many of them measure five feet across the stump. Walnut trees are often found four feet in diameter. The timber is larger and of better quality in the river and larger creek valleys than along the slopes and elevated plateaus.

The timber trade in West Virginia was among the earliest vocations of the pioneers. The best varieties have been taken from the hillsides along the

larger streams of water, and floated in rafts to market. One rise alone has been known to bring out of Elk River \$50,000 worth of poplar logs. Large trees, ninety feet in length, have been floated down Elk and Guyandotte Rivers, to be sawed into gunwales for flat boats and barges. The lumber rafts that are annually floated out of the Guyandotte, Elk, Greenbrier, Little Kanawha, West Fork, and Tygart's Valley Rivers are enormous, and are worth millions of dollars when cut up into boards and shipped to eastern markets. And withal, the lumber business is yet in its infancy in West Virginia. As the population increases, and railroads are constructed, and the navigation of the principal rivers is improved by the latest systems of locks and dams, these immense forests will be brought into market, and will prove a great source of wealth to those that are fortunate enough to be their possessors.

#### COAL.

The largest and most important coal field thus far discovered in the world, is in the Appalachian range of mountains in America. This mountain chain passes through West Virginia from north to south, and gives to the State 16,000 square miles of coal area. Our coals lie in five natural divisions, and are noted for their superior qualities for heating, coking, gas and smelting purposes.

The Great Kanawha coal field is the largest of the five natural divisions of the coal area of the State. Beginning at Charleston, fifty-six miles from the confluence of the Great Kanawha with the Ohio River, and extending up the Great Kanawha for about one hundred miles, the hills on either side are underlaid with coals of every known description except anthracite. The country is cut and counter-cut in all directions by numerous water courses which render mining easy. The steep hillsides readily expose the coal seams that, when added together, aggregate eighty-nine feet of coal measures above the water level, the smallest vein being twenty-six inches and the largest thirteen feet. This section is being opened up at a rapid rate, and it is believed that before the expiration of another decade, it will produce more coals for the western and southern markets than are at present shipped from the State of Pennsylvania.

The next largest of our coal basins is that which begins in Mineral County, and, climbing up the Allegheny Mountains in a southwesterly direction, embraces the counties, in whole and in part, of Tucker, Barbour and Randolph. This coal field is drained by the three separate forks of Cheat River, the Tygart's Valley, north branch of the Potomac, and their tributaries. It is being rapidly opened up by the building of the West

Virginia Central Railroad, and it is thought that, in extent of area, this vast field of "dusky diamonds" will rival the basin of the Great Kanawha Valley. There is a single seam of coal twenty-three feet thick on Coal Creek in Barbour County. This is the largest single vein of coal that has ever been opened in West Virginia, or, indeed, in the world.

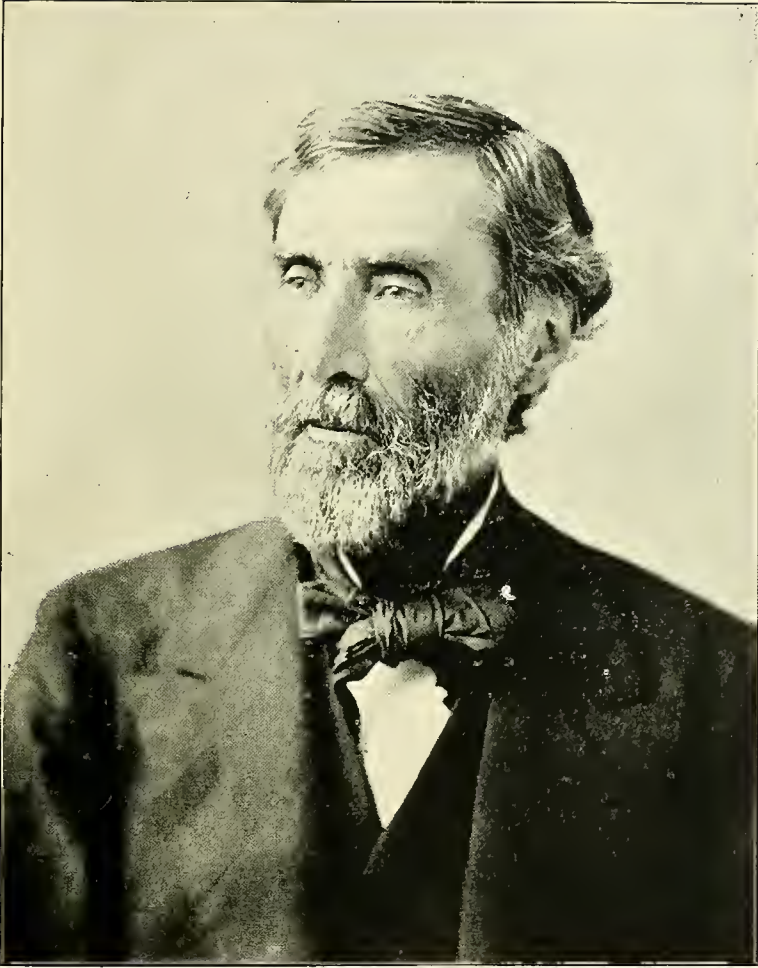
The Monongalia section may be considered as the next largest of our coal fields. It begins with Monongalia County, runs up the Monongahela River, and embraces large portions of Marion, Harrison, Doddridge, Lewis, Gilmer and Braxton Counties. With the exception of a few mines in Marion, Harrison and Doddridge Counties, this great coal basin is practically in a state of nature, although the quality of the coals, and the variety of coal measures, render it rich beyond computation.

The trans-Kanawha section, which embraces all that southern tier of counties extending from the Big Sandy River to the Blue Ridge, is vast in the extent and variety of its coal measures. With the exception of a small portion of the extreme south of Mercer and McDowell Counties, this field is wholly undeveloped. It is drained by the Big Sandy, Guyandotte, Coal, Piney and Blue Stone Rivers.

The Preston County basin is bounded by the Briery Mountains on the west, by Laurel Ridge on the east, and is the southerly continuation of the Ligonier Valley, or second basin of the Pennsylvania survey. There are five workable seams of coal in this basin, the most of which have never been developed or in any way opened up. At Austin and Newburg, extensive mines are in operation.

The counties of Marshall, Ohio, Brooke and Hancock, in their relation to West Virginia coal operations, are separated from all the other natural boundaries. Geologically speaking, they belong to the Pittsburgh basin. For many years, coal has been extensively mined in all of these counties. The Pittsburgh seam is worked as far south as Moundsville, Marshall County. It dips southward, and could, by means of shafting, be profitably worked farther down the Ohio Valley. The workable portion of this seam, in the vicinity of Wheeling, averages about five feet in thickness. It is available as far east as Steubenville, Ohio, and is within easy reach from one extreme to the other of Brooke County.

The coal deposits in West Virginia are practically inexhaustible, and the advantages for mining and developing them are very great. The large number of workable seams accessible above water level; the abrupt hillsides; the self-drainage of the mines; the fat coking, the greasy bituminous, the hard and valuable splint—that smelts iron without coking—and the



*Mr. Edmonston*



rich and oily cannel coals; the cheap water transportation down the Ohio and Great Kanawha Rivers—all enable the operator to mine cheaper, and with more economy, under the same rates of labor, than in any other portion of the Allegheny coal fields.

#### IRON.

Professor Maury divides the iron ores found in West Virginia into two classes, namely:

1. Those ores that belong to and are found in the Appalachian coal measures, consisting of brown oxides, carbonates and black bands, and in some places nodular red hematite.

2. Those that belong to the region lying between the eastern escarpment of the coal formation and the eastern border of the State, forming a part of the great iron belt of the Atlantic States, and consisting of the brown and red hematites, that are much richer and more abundant than those of the first class.

The iron ores of the coal measures are extensively distributed throughout the State, but they have only been developed, to any considerable extent, in two or three counties. The black band, which is nothing more than a carbonate of iron, is a superior ore and is now being worked, in a very satisfactory manner, on Davis' Creek, Kanawha County. There have been no discoveries of this ore outside of Kanawha, Fayette and Wayne Counties—all in the southern part of the State. It is peculiar in that it becomes richer from roasting. By piling it in heaps and setting them on fire, the carboniferous matter is consumed, and in the process of combustion enough heat is generated to convert the carbonate of iron in the ore into a richer oxide, and in the heaps thus roasted there is found, on an average, double the quantity of metallic iron. This ore is found in seams varying from one foot to seven feet in thickness.

The brown hematites, which are the results of decomposition of the carbonates, are quite variable in the thickness of the seams, and are found in large quantities in the counties of Mineral, Grant, Preston, Monongalia, Taylor, Barbour, Braxton, Clay, Kanawha and Wayne. The thickness of the veins ranges from six inches to four feet, and some of them yield as much as fifty-five per cent. of metallic iron.

The red hematites occur in nodules or pockets in a series of bands of red and reddish-yellow shales. These pockets frequently contain from fifty to sixty per cent. of metal; but, outside of Wayne County, no pockets have been discovered large enough to constitute a workable deposit.

Thus far we have spoken only of the brown and red hematites as found in the coal measures. Under the second division mentioned in the outset, we desire to allude briefly to these two classes of ores that are found between the eastern escarpment of the coal formation and the eastern border of the State, and form a part of the great iron belt of the Atlantic States. These ores are much richer and more abundant than those mentioned in class one. They are found in Mercer, Monroe, Greenbrier, Pocahontas, Pendleton, Hardy, Grant, Hampshire, Morgan, Berkeley and Jefferson Counties. They lie in seams, some places seven feet thick, and yield all the way from thirty-five to eighty-two per cent. of iron.

All that is necessary to make West Virginia a great iron-producing State is more railroad facilities as means of transportation. With all the raw materials—iron ore, coal, limestone, gas and timber—on the same tract of land, or at worst not many miles apart, what can prevent her from forcing herself to the front in iron industries, within the next quarter of a century, as a second Pennsylvania?

#### SALT.

There was a period in the past when West Virginia was one of the largest salt-producing States in the Union. In point of fact, it would be in the front to-day if it were not that large combinations or syndicates have been formed in the manufacture of salt that resulted in "dead-renting" our furnaces, and have thus materially shut off our production of this great necessity to human health, comfort and life.

Rock salt has never been found within the limits of West Virginia; but salt brines, varying in strength from six to twelve degrees, have been struck in four different localities, by means of artesian borings, at depths ranging from 600 to 2,000 feet. Salt furnaces were operated for many years on the Ohio River, from Hartford City to West Columbia, in the County of Mason; at Malden, in Kanawha County; at Bulltown and Otter Creek, in Braxton County; and at "Salt Works," in Mercer County. With the exception of an occasional furnace in Mason and Kanawha Counties, and the one on Otter Creek, Braxton County, this once flourishing industry in our State is at a standstill.

The first salt furnace that was built in Kanawha County was by Elisha Brooks in the year 1797; but as far back as 1753 salt was made by Indians in the Kanawha Valley from water obtained from what was then called the "Salt Licks." In the year 1849, 2,951,492 bushels of salt were manufactured in the Kanawha Salines. This was the largest number of bushels



ever produced in a single year, before or since that time, in the Great Kanawha Valley.

The pioneer furnace for the manufacture of salt in Mason County was erected in 1849, and the largest amount of salt ever produced in that locality, in a single year, was 2,500,000 bushels. When the furnaces in Kanawha and Mason Counties were all in full blast, the annual product was about 5,000,000 bushels. The time may come again when this great industry of our State will be revived.

#### OIL AND GAS.

The petroleum oil springs of West Virginia have been known ever since the early pioneers settled amid her hills and valleys. As far back as 1825, oil was procured at various points in the State by sinking sand pits, ten to fifteen feet deep, in the springs where petroleum flowed in small quantities upon the surface of the water. The drilling of salt wells, about the beginning of the present century, revealed the existence of oil in the salt region of the Great Kanawha Valley; and in 1842 a large vein, or basin, of rock oil was struck at Burning Springs, Wirt County, while boring for salt water. Inasmuch as it was not considered good for anything, except as a medicine for sores and bruises, the oil flow was shut off by tubing the well to prevent disturbing the salt water.

The first distinctive oil well ever put down in West Virginia was at Burning Springs in the fall of 1859. This enterprise proved a success, and the result was, the drilling of scores, and hundreds, and thousands of others within a very few years, that gave the State prominence as an oil field of untold value. Test wells were sunk in a large number of counties, but paying wells were confined to Wood, Wirt and Pleasants Counties.

It was claimed by many scientific men that petroleum was the result of pressure upon coal, as oil is pressed from the olive, and upon this theory many wells were put down in the carboniferous sections of the State. The fact was very soon demonstrated that petroleum was not found with bituminous coals, as expected, but in fissures of the rocks underlying bituminous strata, that doubtless were opened since the coal strata was bituminized. No discoveries of oil have thus far been made in West Virginia outside of what is commonly called the "Oil Break." This so-called "Break" is a geological upheaval of the earth's surface, giving it a roof-shape, or bulge, which can be readily traced by men of experience in the oil business.

The Burning Springs territory has been practically abandoned, because of the seeming failure of the oil; but in the Wood County section, in and

around Volcano, the oil business is still in operation; and at Eureka, in Pleasants County, and in Monongalia and Marion Counties new and paying fields are now developing. For many years a large number of oil refineries were operated at Parkersburg. Now, however, only a few are left, which are quite sufficient to handle all the oil that at present flows into that city. It is estimated that about 4,000,000 barrels of oil have been taken from the oil break in West Virginia.

Since the opening of the Washington County oil field in Pennsylvania, within the past three or four years, a new impetus has been given to the oil business in West Virginia. Arrangements have been made to test the stretch of country, fifteen or twenty miles wide, extending almost due south from the Pennsylvania State line to the Little Kanawha River. It is claimed that deep wells will prove the existence of oil, in paying quantities, all along the line of territory named above.

The existence of natural gas in the salt-producing portions of the State has been known for many years; but no one considered it valuable until quite recently, consequently it was never utilized. Thus far paying gas wells have only been found in Brooke, Hancock, Wirt and Kanawha Counties, although thorough tests have been made in other sections, notably in Ohio and Marshall Counties.

The wonders of petroleum, within the last three decades, have thrown a flood of blessings upon the world in the creation of new branches of industry, and the cheapening of many of the utilities and luxuries of life; and now we have natural gas in many localities that bids fair to prove as great a blessing to the world as oil. Gas is used for fuel in Wheeling, Wellsburg and Morgantown, and has imparted fresh vigor to manufacturing enterprises of all kinds peculiar to these localities. Far-seeing men predict a great future for those sections of the United States that are fortunate enough to possess this wonderful fuel.

#### MISCELLANEOUS MINERALS.

In addition to coal, iron, oil and salt, there are other valuable minerals in West Virginia worthy of mention. Common tufa, hydraulic and marble limestones abound throughout different portions of the State. There are, however, no genuine marbles within the limits of West Virginia; but in Jefferson and Greenbrier Counties there is a limestone of different colors, very much like the real marble, that is susceptible of a high and beautiful polish.

Fire clay is quite abundant in Hancock, Marion, Monongalia, Kanawha and perhaps other counties. It lies in large veins and results from silico. Potter's clay, which is the outgrowth or result of the decomposition of granites and shales, is common to many of the counties. Glass sand exists in Hampshire County. In Lewis and Hardy Counties veins three feet thick of yellow ochre have been discovered. Deposits of barytes—a heavy, white mineral used in cheap paints and for adulterating white lead—occur in Jefferson and Mercer Counties. Saltpeter and black oxide of manganese are found in different localities. Indications of the existence of lead, gold, zinc, tin, copper and silver have been discovered in innumerable localities throughout the State, but none of them are workable.

#### MINERAL WATERS.

Every county in the State is supplied with a greater or less number of fresh water springs; and in the southern and southeastern border a large portion of the mineral spring plaza breaks out in never-failing medicinal waters equal to any of their class found in any other portion of the world. These springs present a considerable variety of chemical characters and therapeutic adaptation. They comprise several kinds of sulphur, chalybeates, salines, acidulous or carbonated, aluminated chalybeates, and low temperature thermal waters.

The sulphur springs are most numerous and are found in several counties, but principally in Greenbrier and Monroe. The chalybeates are common to every section of the State, but are strongest in the Allegheny Mountains. The acidulous carbonated waters and the aluminated chalybeates are found in various places, but have never been developed outside of the section bordering on Virginia.

The most valuable of all these mineral springs is the sulphur, commonly called alum waters. They have been tested in most every variety of disease, and have generally proved themselves powerful remedial agents.

The most noted of the many medicinal springs in West Virginia are the following: Berkeley Springs, Morgan County; Capon Springs, Hampshire County; Shannondale Springs, Jefferson County; Orich Springs, Berkeley County; Sweet Springs, Salt Sulphur, Red Sulphur, and Old Sweet Springs, Monroe County; White Sulphur Springs, Greenbrier County—one of the most noted Summer resorts in America; Mineral Wells, Wood County; Sanitarium, Pleasants County; Electric Wells, Wirt County; Salt Sulphur Springs, Webster County—perhaps the most powerful of all the springs in the State. These latter springs are said to be a sure cure for all

stomach and kidney ailments. Also the Magnesia Spring, Greenbrier County, and the Blue Sulphur Spring in Cabell County.

With a few exceptions, the above mentioned springs have been noted places of resort for invalids for over half a century. The Greenbrier White Sulphur Springs have been well known as a health resort for nearly one hundred years. This noted spring yields thirty gallons per minute, and is not influenced in its flow, or in the strength of the water, either by the season of the year or by wet or dry weather. The temperature of the water is uniformly 62 degrees Fahrenheit, which is ten degrees warmer than the earth through which it flows.

#### RAILROADS.

Two great trunk line railroads pass across the entire State from east to west. One of these, the Baltimore & Ohio, enters the State at Harper's Ferry, and at Grafton its lines diverge—one (the main stem) leads to Chicago, crossing the Ohio River at Benwood, while the other, commonly called "the Parkersburg Branch," crosses the Ohio River at Parkersburg—the western terminal being Cincinnati. This mammoth corporation has a branch line of road passing down the Monongahela River from Fairmont to Morgantown; also another branch starting at Grafton and passing up the Tygart's Valley River to Belington, Barbour County; and also another branch which leaves the main stem at Greenspring Run and terminates at Romney, Hampshire County. There are in addition to these, two other feeders of the Baltimore & Ohio that traverse narrow portions of our territory, namely: the Pittsburgh Division, which extends from Wheeling, by way of Wheeling Creek through Ohio County, with northern terminal at Pittsburgh; and the Valley Branch, which extends from Harper's Ferry to Staunton, Virginia.

The other trunk line is the Chesapeake & Ohio, recently changed to the Newport News & Mississippi Valley Railway, that traverses the entire State. This road enters West Virginia a short distance east of the White Sulphur Springs, Greenbrier County, and threads its way westward through the grand canyons of the New River Valley; thence down the beautiful and historic Great Kanawha River for fifty miles; thence across the hill country, a distance of thirty-five miles, to the Ohio River at Huntington; thence down the Ohio River for fifteen miles to the mouth of the Big Sandy River—the extreme western border of the State. Recently this line of railroad has been extended from Huntington to Cincinnati, closely following the south bank of the Ohio River the entire distance.

These two railroads are great National thoroughfares, and have ac-

complished not a little in bringing the vast natural resources of West Virginia into general notice.

Within the past five years several new lines of railroads have been constructed within the borders of our State—notably the Ohio River road, which passes down the Ohio Valley from Wheeling to Huntington, a distance of 223 miles: the Kanawha & Ohio Railroad, running from Charleston down the Great Kanawha River to Point Pleasant, and thence to Corning, Ohio; the Clarksburg, Weston & Buckhannon narrow gauge now in operation from Clarksburg to Buckhannon; and the Norfolk & Weston, that has tapped the State near its southern border, and will before many years be constructed through several of the counties that border upon the Virginia State line, into Kentucky and still farther west. The West Virginia Central Railroad is building up the North Branch of the Potomac River, and will ultimately be projected into Tennessee and other Southern States. About one hundred miles of this road are already in operation, and vigorous efforts are making to continue it eastward to Baltimore and southward into the great coal basin that is drained by the three forks of Cheat River with ultimate terminal at Charleston, or perhaps some point farther east on the line of the Chesapeake & Ohio system. Vast amounts of coal have already been shipped over this railroad to Piedmont and Cumberland; thence over the Baltimore & Ohio system and the Chesapeake Canal to the eastern cities.

The Pittsburgh, Wheeling & Kentucky Railroad has been operating twenty-five miles of track from Wheeling to Steubenville Junction in Hancock County for a number of years, and recently the line has been extended to New Cumberland, Hancock County. A narrow gauge road, eight miles in length, has been successfully operated for about ten years past, from Pennsboro to Harrisville, Ritchie County; and a narrow gauge road is now in operation from Tunnelton to Kingwood, the seat of justice of Preston County. The Cumberland Valley Railroad is a well constructed line of road, extending from Martinsburg, Berkeley County, to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Shenandoah Valley Railroad is now in operation from Shepherdstown, on the Potomac, traversing Jefferson County, and passing through the great Page Valley into the South.

The Grafton & Greenbrier Railroad, a narrow gauge, operated from Grafton, Taylor County, to Belington, Barbour County, will soon be extended to Buckhannon, Upshur County. This road is controlled by the Baltimore & Ohio Company, and it is confidently believed that it will shortly be pushed through to Charleston by way of the Elk River Valley.

The Laurel Fork & Sand Hill Railroad is a short line extending from Laurel Junction, on the Baltimore & Ohio, to Volcano, Wood County, a distance of three or four miles.

In the Kanawha Valley there are a number of short lines of standard gauge railroads, which extend from coal mines to points along the Chesapeake & Ohio, now called the Newport News & Mississippi Valley Railroad, wholly for coal shipping purposes.

The Monongahela Valley Railroad is now building from Fairmont, Marion County, to Clarksburg, Harrison County. As the line is surveyed, it follows the west bank of the West Fork of the Monongahela River four miles south from Fairmont, where the river is bridged, and thence on the east bank to a point seven miles south of Fairmont, whence either of two routes may be taken to Clarksburg, a distance of thirty-four miles.

The road is a connecting link of railway through the heart of the State, and its ultimate terminus is Charleston. At Clarksburg, connection is made with the Clarksburg & Weston narrow gauge, which is controlled by practically the same company. This branch will be widened immediately, and the engineers are now at work upon it. Braxton County has already voted a stock subscription of \$60,000, and the railroad will be pushed on to Braxton Court House at an early day. A line 100 miles in length will then be completed from Fairmont to Braxton Court House, and as soon as the counties along the route can be induced to encourage the enterprise, the road will be constructed down Elk River to Charleston, making the shortest and most direct route to the Capital City of the State.

Along both banks of the West Fork River, for a distance of over thirty miles, the Pittsburgh coal series crops out in rich and workable veins. The country for miles back from the river is underlaid by coal beds. The new railroad will cut through the heart of this territory, and bring its coal into market. The experience of the Montana Coal and Coke Company, which is now working the Pittsburgh vein, is enough to show that the coal will command a good price in market. Coke made from it is as pure and finds as ready sale as the famous Connellsville coke.

To build up this industry is the main purpose of the railroad company. It has already taken up some 8,000 acres of coal land, paying from \$10 to \$25 an acre for it, and has 20,000 acres more under option. Five hundred coke ovens will be built a short distance south of Fairmont, and others will be put in operation as soon as the road is completed.

Quite a considerable number of railroad charters have been issued, and in some instances preliminary surveys have been made, for other lines of

road through West Virginia that will be built before another decade shall have passed. It is safe to say that the era of railroad building in West Virginia has only fairly begun.

#### STATE CAPITALS.

The Linsly Institute Building, situated on the corner of Eoff and Fifteenth Streets, in the city of Wheeling, was the first State Capitol of West Virginia. About seventy-five years ago, Noah Linsly, an educator of distinguished attainments, came to West Virginia and settled in Wheeling. He procured a lot, erected a building thereon and established a classical academy for the preparation of boys for college. For many years it has been used for that ennobling purpose. In 1863 the State of West Virginia was formed, and the present institute building was occupied as the Capitol up to 1870, when the seat of government was removed to Charleston. In 1875 the Capital was re-located at Wheeling, and the Linsly Institute Building was again made the State House from September 30 of that year to December 4, 1876, when the new Capitol, erected by the City of Wheeling, was completed and the archives were transferred to it. The Linsly building is three stories high, is constructed of brick, and its many appointments made it a convenient and comfortable State House.

In May, 1870, the State archives were taken to Charleston, Kanawha County, where the Legislature had decided, at its 1869 session, the State Capital should be located. A few of the public-spirited citizens of that city furnished the necessary means, and at a cost of \$75,000, a handsome and elegant temporary Capitol was erected. The State archives remained in this building until September 30, 1875, when they were again taken to Wheeling in obedience to an edict of the Legislature re-locating the seat of government for the period of ten years in that city.

When the question of Capital removal was being agitated by the Legislature, an offer was made on the part of the City of Wheeling to the effect that if the Legislature would send the Capital back to that city for the period of ten years, a large and commodious building would be erected and presented free of cost to the State for the ten years—or as long as the Capital was allowed to remain there. In the session of 1874-5, an act was passed transferring the State archives to Wheeling for the term of ten years. In accordance with the promise made by Wheeling representatives, a commodious State House was erected on Chapline Street, occupying all the space from Fifteenth to Sixteenth Streets. It cost in the neighborhood

of \$150,000. During the session of the Legislature of 1877, an act was passed February 21st, submitting the question to the people of the State, at a special election to be held the first Tuesday in August, of that year, to permanently locate the State Capital in the year 1885. Three places were voted for, viz.: Charleston, Clarksburg and Martinsburg. Said election resulted in the choice of Charleston by a majority of 3,255 over both Clarksburg and Martinsburg combined. \* \* \* \* \*

After the people had permanently located the seat of government at Charleston, the Legislature, at its next session, made an appropriation for the construction of a new Capitol, and soon thereafter let the contract and began work on the building. Notwithstanding the incident delays necessary to so extensive an undertaking, the magnificent edifice was completed by the Spring of 1885, at a cost to the State of about \$350,000; and in accordance with the provisions of the law of permanent location, the archives were removed back to Charleston, where they may be regarded as a fixture for all time to come.

## EDUCATIONAL.\*

### PIONEER SCHOOLS.

The history of education in the Territory of West Virginia up to the time when it became a separate State, forms a part of the educational history of Virginia, and no satisfactory account of this history can be given without some reference, at least, to such educational legislation and movements of the mother State as were of a general character, or were in the interest of some portion of territory now included in the new State.

The educational history of Virginia begins with the movement to establish a college for the education of Indians, at Henrico, in 1619. Holmes' Annals of America contains the following account of it:

"The King of England having formerly issued his letters patent to the several bishops of the Kingdom for collecting money to erect a college in Virginia for the education of Indian children, nearly £1,500 had been already paid toward this benevolent and pious design, and Henrico had been selected as a suitable place for the seminary. The Virginia Company, on the recommendation of Sir Edwin Sandys, its treasurer, now granted 10,000 acres of land, to be laid off for the University of Henrico. This donation, while it

\*From History of Education in West Virginia.



embraced the original object, was intended also for the foundation of a seminary of learning for the English."

Two years later, steps were taken to found a free school which was designed to be a preparatory school for Henrico College. In Holmes' Annals, Vol. I., will be found this interesting bit of history of the origin of this philanthropic enterprise:

"A free school was founded in Virginia. An East India ship having returned from India to England, the ship's company, incited by the example and persuasions of Mr. Copeland, their chaplain, contributed £70 toward building a church, or a free school in that colony. Thirty pounds more were given by one unknown person, and £25 were afterward added by another. An unknown person also gave forty shillings, yearly, for a sermon before the society. Many excellent religious books, of the value of £10, and a very valuable map of all that coast of America, were also sent by a person unknown, for the college at Henrico. Mr. Thomas Bargrave, a preacher at that place, gave a library, valued at one thousand marks; and the inhabitants made a contribution of £1,500 to build a house for the entertainment of strangers. It was determined to build a free school in Charles City, which was thought to be most convenient to all parts of the colony, and it was named The East India School. The company allotted, for the maintenance of the master and usher, 1,000 acres of land, with five servants and an overseer. This school was to be collegiate, and to have dependence on the college at Henrico, into which, as soon as the college should be sufficiently endowed, and capable of receiving students, pupils were to be admitted and advanced according to their deserts and proficiency in learning."

The following year both of these educational enterprises, which had been projected with such fair prospects of success for the colony, were utterly destroyed by the terrible Indian massacre, which arrested the general work of education for nearly half a century.

It may be interesting to know that the first time the term "free school" appears in the history of the colonies was in connection with the founding of the free school at Charles City.

The next school established in Virginia was also a free school.

In 1834 Benjamin Symms devised two hundred acres of land on the Pocason River, with the milk and increase of eight milch cows, "for the maintenance of a learned, honest man to keep upon the said ground a free school for the education and instruction of the children of the parishes of Elizabeth and Kiquoton from Mary's Mount downward to the Pocason River."

The House of Burgesses for 1642 confirmed the devise, and the school was established, but it appears to have been unsuccessful and was soon discontinued and neglected, and nothing further is known of it till 1805, when an act was passed providing for the appointment of trustees to take charge of the property.

No general educational enterprise was again projected until 1660, when the Colonial Assembly passed an act for the establishment and endowment of a college, but the institution was not actually established till 1693, when a royal charter was granted, and the institution named William and Mary College in honor of the reigning king and queen. This was the only college chartered in the colonies by any of the English rulers. In William and Mary College were educated many of the men who became the leaders, not only in Virginia, but in the colonies. Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe, Chief Justice Marshall, John Tyler, Winfield Scott and other distinguished men were graduates of this school. For over a century it continued to be the training school of statesmen, and the intellectual head of the colony.

Within less than half a century after the creation of William and Mary College, there was begun, through private and other enterprises, the establishment of a class of schools, called academies, in the wealthy and densely populated counties, which were destined to perform an invaluable service for the cause of education throughout the State. Many of them were incorporated and in some cases received assistance from the State. Their chief support, however, was from private donations and tuition fees. Of this class of schools two were established in Western Virginia before the beginning of the present century, the Randolph Academy, in 1787, at Clarksburg, and the Charlestown Academy in 1795, at Charlestown, Jefferson County. These academies, established throughout the State in the centers of population, served as the preparatory schools of the people and also became the agencies for disseminating among the people the influence of William and Mary College and the other higher institutions of learning as they were established.

Some of these academies were enlarged into colleges, as in the case of Augusta Academy, which became Hampden and Sidney College, and also in the case of Liberty Hall Academy, which afterward became Washington and Lee University. William and Mary College, and these early academies, were the real pioneer schools of Virginia, and were the most important factors in laying the foundation of her educational institutions.

The facilities of the masses of the people for elementary primary education, consisted principally of schools supported by private subscriptions. In

some sections of the State teachers were employed in the wealthier families, and sometimes two or more families would unite in establishing private schools, and to these private schools frequently the children of neighboring families were admitted.

The chief dependence of the people, however, for elementary education were the subscription schools. These schools varied in their character and the quality of instruction with the development and wealth of the country and the density of the population. In the frontier and sparsely settled portions, the schools were in keeping with the pioneer life of the people, whose first achievement was the clearing away of the forest and the building of homes.

The school house was a rude structure, the walls built of unhewn logs, the floor laid with slabs or puncheons, the chimney made of sticks and mud, occupying in many cases one-half or two-thirds of one end of the house. The window was made by sawing out one log and putting in a row of glass one pane deep, or by fastening over the opening greased paper. The furniture consisted of benches without backs made of slabs or puncheons, and a long, sloping board hung beneath the window for a writing desk. The fuel was wood, and consisted of logs brought from the nearest wood or forest. The school books were scarce and of a very indifferent character. The teachers of these schools were a roving body of men whose qualifications, except in rare instances, did not extend beyond the ability to teach the most elementary branches, such as spelling, reading, writing and arithmetic. They generally boarded around, dividing the time equally among the patrons of the school.

In the towns, villages, and more densely populated sections, more favorable educational conditions existed, and a higher and better class of schools in every way were established. The school houses were more substantial, better warmed and better lighted, and supplied with more comfortable furniture. The range of subjects taught was wider, often including some branches of the higher mathematics, such as algebra, geometry and surveying, and some irregular work in the classics. The work of teaching in these schools offered some attractions as affording a stepping-stone to the professions or some more lucrative avocation, and the teachers as a class were men who had been educated in the higher educational institutions of the State, academies or colleges, or in the schools of the northern or eastern States.

The schools that have now been briefly described comprised the educational facilities provided by the people during the early years of the history of Virginia and although greatly inadequate to the requirements of the

people, they produced many excellent men who became the leaders in the various movements for the advancement of the educational interests of the State. In the territory west of the Allegheny Mountains, called Western Virginia, now forming the principal part of West Virginia, the establishment of schools of every character progressed very slowly until after the beginning of the present century. However, as the new territory developed the people manifested an earnest interest in the education of the children and the establishment of educational institutions.

When the active free school movement began in 1845 it found no more ardent advocates than the representatives from Western Virginia, and the leading counties in this territory were among the very first in the State to adopt a free school system.

#### FREE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

The first movement to secure the establishment of a system of free schools in Virginia began in 1779 when Thomas Jefferson prepared and had submitted to the General Assembly a bill "For the Better Diffusion of Knowledge." Although this bill was not even considered by the General Assembly at the time submitted, it was powerful in stimulating public opinion, and so wise and comprehensive were its provisions that it has formed the basis of all subsequent legislation on public education in Virginia. It did not propose merely the establishment of elementary schools, but a system embracing three classes of schools, namely:

1. Elementary schools, free to all and supported at public expense.
2. General schools, academies and colleges, to be maintained partly at public expense, and partly by tuition fees.
3. A State University, as the head of the system.

For the purpose of showing the details of the system it will be best to give Mr. Jefferson's own description of it as found in his "Notes on Virginia."

"This bill proposes to lay off every county into small districts of five or six miles square, called hundreds, and each of them to establish a school for teaching reading, writing and arithmetic. The tutor to be supported by the hundred and every person in it entitled to send his children three years gratis, and as much longer as he pleases, paying for it. These schools to be under a visitor, who is annually to choose the boy of best genius in the school, of those whose parents are too poor to give them further education, and to send him forward to one of the grammar schools, of which twenty are proposed to be erected in different parts of the country, for teaching Greek, Latin, geography and the higher branches of numerical arithmetic. Of the boys thus

sent in one year, trial is to be made at the grammar schools one or two years, and the best genius of the whole selected, and continued six years, and the residue dismissed. By this means twenty of the best geniuses will be annually instructed at public expense, so far as the grammar schools."

"At the end of six years' instruction one-half are to be discontinued, from among whom the grammar schools will be supplied with future masters, and the other half who are to be chosen for the superiority of their parts and dispositions, are to be sent and continued three years in the study of such services, as they may choose, at William and Mary College, the plan of which is proposed to be enlarged, as will hereafter be explained, and extended to all the useful sciences. The ultimate result of the whole scheme of education would be the teaching of all the children of the State reading, writing and common arithmetic, turning out ten annually, of superior genius, well taught in Greek, Latin, geography and the higher branches of arithmetic; turning out ten others annually, of still superior parts, who, to those branches of learning, shall have added such of the sciences as their genius shall have led them to; the furnishing to the wealthier part of the people convenient schools at which their children may be educated at their own expense."

"The general objects of this law are to provide an education adapted to the years, to the capacity, and the condition of every one, and directed to their freedom and happiness. Specific details were not proper for the law. These must be the business of the visitors, entrusted with its execution. The first stage of this education being the schools of the hundreds, wherein the great mass of the people will receive their instruction, the principal foundations of future order will be laid here."

There were three other celebrated bills prepared by Mr. Jefferson, for the abolition of estates tails and the right of primogeniture, and for the establishment of the freedom of religious belief, all of which were adopted. Speaking of these bills, Mr. Jefferson said: "I considered four of these bills passed as reported, viz.: The school bill, bill for religious freedom, for abolishing entails and abolishing the right of primogeniture, as forming a system by which every fiber would be eradicated of ancient or future aristocracy, and a foundation laid for a government truly republican."

There were many reasons why the educational system contemplated by this bill was not adopted, and could not have been successful if it had been adopted. Nearly one-third of the population of 700,000 were slaves; this population was largely divided into settlements, and these usually far apart. Perhaps four-fifths of the State's 64,000 square miles, larger than all New England, was still in densest forest.

The rivers and streams had not been bridged, and roads were either of the most inferior character, or did not exist. At that time the counties of Virginia were farther apart than the States of the Union are now. The entire system was, as subsequent history has proved, a hundred years in advance of the times.

In 1796, December 22, an act to establish public schools was passed, which embodied the provision of Mr. Jefferson's bill for elementary schools, being the first grade of the system.

This act contained the general plan of an efficient free school system. The entire management of the proposed system was placed in the hands of three county officers, styled aldermen, who were empowered to divide the county into school districts, employ teachers, determine the amount of money necessary to build school houses, to pay teachers' salaries and to make a levy upon the property of the inhabitants of each county for this purpose. A fatal proviso, however, was added to the act: "That the court of each county, at which a majority of the acting magistrates thereof shall be present, shall first determine the year in which the first election of aldermen shall be made, and until they so determine no such election shall be made." Concerning the failure of his law, Mr. Jefferson said: "The justices, being generally of the more wealthy class, were unwilling to incur the burden, so that it was not suffered to commence in a single county." Although this law was never repealed, there is no record showing that this act was ever put in operation.

#### THE LITERARY FUND.

The opportunity was again presented for the agitation of the public school question in 1810 when the Literary Fund was created.

"It was enacted on the 2d of February, 1810, that all escheats, confiscations, fines, penalties and forfeitures, and all rights in personal property accruing to the Commonwealth, as directed, showing no rightful proprietor, shall be appropriated to the encouragement of learning; and the auditor was directed to open an account to be designated as the Literary Fund."

The following year an act was passed protesting against any other application of the revenues of this fund by any other General Assembly, to any other object than the education of the poor. This was the beginning of what was called the "Pauper System" which continued in force up to 1861 and was in operation in every county except those in which a free school system had been established and in such counties their just quota of the Literary Fund went into the county school fund. By an act passed in 1816

an addition was made to the fund of the debt due to the State from the United States. With this large addition to the Literary Fund, the friends of education gained new courage, and the efforts of Mr. Jefferson and others were renewed in behalf of a system of public schools. The bill prepared by Mr. Jefferson in 1779, with some modifications was again brought forward. It passed the House but was lost in the Senate. Although they again failed to secure the establishment of a system of public schools, some advancement was made.

On the 21st of February, 1818, an act was passed providing for the appointment annually, by the court of each county and corporation, of commissioners, whose duty it was to determine what children were entitled to the benefit of the Literary Fund, and to pay their tuition fees at certain fixed rates.

It appropriated for each county and corporation, annually such proportion of \$45,000 as its free white population might bear to the whole free white population of the State; and also provided for a university and appropriated \$15,000 a year for defraying the expense of procuring the land and erecting the buildings, and for the permanent endowment of the university.

Although Mr. Jefferson was deeply interested in founding the university, he saw clearly the great necessity of a system of schools and of making the university the head of that system. In a letter to General Breckenridge, dated February 15th, 1821, he said: "Let us keep our eye on the whole system." He desired to see a school system so complete and thorough that, as he expressed it in the same letter, the university and the public schools should "go on hand in hand forever."

In a letter to Joseph C. Cabell, in January, 1822, about three years before his death, Jefferson wrote: "Were it necessary to give up either the primaries or the university, I would rather abandon the last, because it is safer to have a whole people respectably enlightened, than a few in a high state of learning, and the many in ignorance. This last is the most dangerous state in which a nation can be."

On the 25th of February, 1829, an act was passed providing for the combination of public and private means for establishing and maintaining free schools, by empowering the county school commissioners to district their respective counties, when in their judgment it seemed advantageous to do so, and to offer to pay two-fifths of the amount necessary to build a school house in each district, and one hundred dollars toward maintaining each school wherever the people, by voluntary contributions, should

raise the other three-fifths. This measure, although tried in a few counties, met with but little encouragement, and no further legislation looking to the establishment of public schools was secured until 1845. During this period the efforts of the friends of public schools were not abated in the least, but on the contrary it was marked by an increased activity and awakened interest concerning education. James Madison, who had spent many years in the service of his State and country, gave the influence of his closing years to the cause of the public schools. Writing to a friend, about 1830, he said: "A satisfactory plan for primary schools is certainly a vital desideratum in our Republic, and is at the same time found to be a difficult one everywhere. It might be useful to consult, so far as there may be opportunities, the different modifications presented in the laws of the different States. The New England, New York and Pennsylvania examples may possibly afford useful hints. There has, latterly, I believe, been a plan discussed, if not adopted, by the Legislature of Maryland, where its situation is more analogous than that of the more northern States to the situation of Virginia.

"The most serious difficulty in all the Southern States results from the character of their population and the want of density in the free parts of them. This I take to be the main cause of the little success of the experiment now on foot with us."

In 1839, Governor Campbell urged the Legislature to make better provisions for the education of the people, and Governor McDowell said in his message in 1843: "This plan of common education, viz., that based upon the Literary Fund and the Act of 1818, which reaches only twenty-eight thousand out of the fifty-one thousand poor children, and gives them only sixty days tuition is a costly and delusive nullity, which ought to be abolished and another and better one established in its place."

During this period the two Methodist colleges were established, Randolph Macon, in 1832, and Emory and Henry in 1839, also the Baptist institution, Richmond College, in 1841. The ministers of the State labored earnestly to build up and endow their respective church colleges, and in so doing did much to call public attention to the increasing amount of ignorance and to arouse the people on the subject of education. The University of Virginia had already begun to exert a wholesome influence and a more liberal educational spirit was now rapidly spreading among the people. \* \* \* \*

In December, 1845, an educational convention was held in Richmond. Many of the leading educators of the State, and also prominent citizens who were favorable to the establishment of a system of public schools were pres-



ent and took part in the deliberations. As a result of the discussions of this meeting public attention was aroused, and deep interest created in behalf of public schools. A bill was prepared which was to be submitted to the Legislature at its next session.

The Legislature of 1846 manifested a deep interest in the educational interests of the State. During the session an act was passed amending the primary school law then in force and also on the same day a new act embodying the bill formulated by the educational constitution was passed for the establishment of a district public school system, subject to the adoption on the petition of one-third of the qualified voters of any county on receiving the favorable indorsement of two-thirds of the legal voters thereof.

At the same session special acts, which required no petition were passed for establishing free schools in Essex County, also in the Counties of Lancaster, West Moreland, Richmond, King George, Accomac, Northumberland, London, Brooke, Jefferson, Henry, Frederick, Kanawha, Prince William, York, James City and Fairfax, and City of Williamsburg, subject to adoption by two-thirds of the legal voters thereof at an election to be held on the fourth Thursday in April, 1846.

The passage of these acts, important as they were, was only a partial victory for the friends of the public schools. Before a single public school could be established in any county, either under the general act for the establishment of a district school system, or any one of the special acts, it must first be adopted by two-thirds of the legal voters of that county. In the contest before the people for adoption, however, the enemies of free schools possessed a decided advantage in the unusual requirement of two-thirds of all the legal voters and in the large property qualifications required by the constitution to exercise the right of suffrage, which prevented the poor man from taking a part in voting for the adoption of a free school system.

Against all these odds, the friends of public schools were victorious, and the great struggle for popular education was now beginning in Virginia, only to be suspended for a time by the oncoming of the civil war.

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#### PUBLIC SCHOOLS ESTABLISHED IN THE TERRITORY OF WEST VIRGINIA.

On account of the failure of the early school legislation to provide for the making and preservation of records and reports concerning the operation

of the first public schools established, but few important statistics can be obtained.

In most of the counties no record was made of the various petitions of the people nor of the results of the educational elections held. Even the exact number of schools established in the several counties adopting public schools cannot now be ascertained. The Counties of Ohio, Jefferson and Kanawha were the first counties in West Virginia to agitate the establishment of public schools.

To Jefferson County probably belongs the honor of being the first county to adopt a system of free schools, but free school laws were put in operation in Jefferson, Ohio and Kanawha about the same time. The special act passed February 25, 1846, to establish free schools in the Counties of Lancaster and thirteen others including Jefferson, was adopted by the people of Jefferson County at the regular election for delegates to represent the several counties of the State in the General Assembly on the fourth Thursday (the 23d) in April, 1846. Although the law was adopted by more than a two-thirds vote, it was not put in operation by the county school commissioners during that year. At the session of the Legislature for 1847, this act received important amendments. The free school act of 1846, was repealed and in the amended law of 1847 a tuition fee was required of all pupils able to pay, and the building of school houses to be at the expense of the district instead of the county. \* \* \* \* \*

Prior to 1860, a respectable number of the counties now included in West Virginia had agitated the adoption of a free school system, and five of the leading counties had adopted free school systems. In the contest that had now been going on for fourteen years, the victory was on the side of the friends of free schools. This victory had a wholesome influence on the people, and did much to prepare them to take care of the State system of free schools, soon adopted by the new State.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOLS UNDER THE FIRST CONSTITUTION.

No account of the history of the formation of West Virginia need be given here, further than may be necessary to the purposes of this sketch. In accordance with an ordinance adopted on the 20th of August, 1861, by a convention of the people of forty-seven counties of Virginia, now included in the Territory of West Virginia, an election was held on the fourth Thursday in October ensuing for the purpose of ascertaining whether the people of those counties desired the formation of a separate and independent State, and for the election of delegates who, in case of a favorable decision by the

people, should assemble in Wheeling on the 26th of November next for the purpose of drafting a constitution for the new State.

The majority in favor of the new State was overwhelming, and accordingly, on the call of Governor Pierpont, a constitutional convention was convened in Wheeling on the 26th day of November, 1861. \* \* \* \* \*

The committee on education was composed of the following: Gordon Battelle, of Ohio County; Wm. E. Stevenson, of Wood County; Robert Hagar, of Boone; Thomas H. Trainer, of Marshall; J. W. Parsons, of Tucker; William Walker, of Wyoming, and George Sheets, of Hampshire. The chairman of the committee, who was a Methodist minister, had been twelve years principal of the Northwestern Academy at Clarksburg, and Wm. E. Stevenson, the second member, was afterward the second Governor of the State. The following provisions prepared by this committee to be the foundation of the public school system of the State, was adopted by the convention, and with only a slight change was again adopted by the second Constitutional Convention held in Charleston, 1872: "The Legislature shall provide as soon as practicable for the establishment of a thorough and efficient system of free schools. They shall provide for the support of such schools by appropriating thereto the interest of the invested school fund, the net proceeds of all forfeitures, confiscations, and fines accruing to this State under the laws thereof, and by general taxation on persons and property, or otherwise. They shall also provide for raising in each township, by the authority of the people thereof, such a proportion of the amount required for the support of free schools therein as shall be prescribed by general laws."

The first Legislature under this Constitution met in Wheeling, June 20th, 1863. The message of the first Governor, Arthur I. Boreman, to the Legislature contained the following in regard to free schools: "I call your especial attention to Article X of the Constitution, requiring the Legislature to provide, as soon as practicable, for the establishment of a thorough and efficient system of free schools. Ample power is given to provide the funds and to pass all the laws necessary for the purpose, and I trust you will take such action as will result in the organization of a thorough and efficient system as soon as the condition of the country is such as to make it practicable."

The Committee on Education in the two branches of the Legislature stood as follows: In the Senate, John H. Atkinson, Thomas K. McCann, John B. Bowen, Chester D. Hubbard, and Wm. E. Stevenson. In the House, A. F. Ross, S. R. Dawson, George C. Bowyer, Daniel Sweeney and Thomas Copley. The two committees contained a number of men of large

experience in teaching, and thoroughly imbued with the free school spirit. Mr. Atkinson, Chairman of the Senate Committee, was a teacher, surveyor and a successful business man. Mr. Ross, Chairman of the House Committee, was the founder of West Liberty Academy in Ohio County, and had been a professor in Bethany College. He being thoroughly familiar with the operation of the public school system in Ohio County and an able scholar, was prepared to give the State the benefit of the public school experiment in Ohio County and to perform invaluable service in shaping aright the legislation which was largely to determine the future of the free school system of the State.

On the 23d of July, Mr. Atkinson in the Senate, and on the 26th of September, Mr. Ross in the House, reported each a different bill for the establishment of a free school system, and during almost three months these bills underwent critical discussion.

On the 10th of December, 1863, an act was passed to establish a system of free schools, which embodied the bill of Mr. Ross with numerous amendments, and those sections of the Senate bill concerning the creation and the duties of the board of the school fund.

In 1864, Rev. W. R. White was elected State Superintendent by the Legislature for a term ending March 3, 1865, and at once entered upon the arduous duty of carrying the new law into effect. At first there were many causes that operated to delay the prompt establishment of public schools throughout the State. In many counties, particularly the southern and eastern counties, the people had suffered terribly from the effects of the war and were unable for a time to bear the burdens of building houses and supporting schools. The old-time opposition to free schools was still strong in some sections. The division of sentiment and feeling among the people created by the war still existed. Time alone could remove some of these obstacles and prepare the way for the inauguration of the free school system.

From the State Superintendent's report for 1865, it appears that the law during that year was in operation in twenty counties and partially in operation in eleven more; that the number of school houses was 133; the number of schools 431; the number of pupils enrolled 15,972; the average length of the school term forty-nine days, and the total amount expended for free schools, \$7,772. The report for 1866 showed that the number of schools taught was 935; the number of pupils enrolled 34,219, and the average length of the school term 69 days.

Considering the fact that the number of competent teachers, whose services were available, was grossly inadequate, the political bitterness growing

out of the war, the impoverished condition of the people in some counties, and the inherited opposition to the schools, the statistics for these two years indicated that an auspicious beginning had been made and that the law had been received with general favor by the people.

It soon became apparent, however, to the friends of public education that the great need of the public school system was trained and educated teachers and that the development of the "thorough and efficient system of free schools" contemplated by the Constitution must await this establishment of normal schools and higher institutions of learning.

In his report for 1866, Superintendent White discussed the great importance of the question, and urgently recommended the establishment of normal schools to prepare teachers for the public schools. During the session of the Legislature for 1867, provision was made for the establishment of three normal schools, one at Guyandotte, one at Fairmont, and the other at West Liberty. Also during this session an act was passed for establishing a State Agricultural College, which was soon enlarged and changed into a State University.

With the establishment of these institutions begins the history of the growth and development of the public school system.

The normal schools established at Fairmont and Guyandotte were opened in 1868, and although they were unable to supply the demand for teachers in the public schools, they exercised a most wholesome influence upon the entire system.

From this time forward the statistics contained in the school reports are more favorable and encouraging.

Concerning the condition of the public schools in 1870, Superintendent A. D. Williams, in his report to the Legislature, says: "The increased attendance, and especially the increased average or per cent. of attendance, speaks significantly of the hold the school system is getting upon the confidence and affections of both parents and pupils. The school house is becoming more and more closely associated with our social life, and school training is becoming inseparably interwoven with the aspirations and hopes of our boys and girls." \* \* \* \* \*

Governor W. E. Stevenson, in his message for this year, in referring to the public school system, says: "It may now be regarded as part of our fixed policy, and justly so."

The year 1872, the last year of the free school system under the law adopted under the first Constitution, was notable for the passage of acts providing for the establishment of three more State normal schools, making the

whole number six, and for the marked increase in the public interest manifested in educational work.

During this period five State Superintendents had presided over the public school system. W. R. White served from June 1, 1864, to March 4, 1869. H. A. G. Ziegler served from March 4, 1869, to February 17, when he died. A. D. Williams was appointed to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term of Mr. Zeigler to March 3, 1871. C. S. Lewis served from March 4, 1871, to December 6, 1872, when he resigned. All of these officers were deeply imbued with the free school spirit, and by their labors to direct public legislation in the interest of the public schools, and by public addresses to the people, and at institutes and teachers' associations, they performed an invaluable service to the cause of the public school system during those early years.

William K. Pendleton was appointed to fill the two months of Mr. Lewis' term, and made the report of the office for 1872. The progress of the free school system under the first Constitution was summed up by Mr. Pendleton in the following eloquent words:

"Reviewing our progress in the noble efforts of the State to provide for the free education of the whole people, we have reason for profound gratitude at our comparative success. With a million and a quarter of capital invested in school property; three thousand schools in actual operation, and three-quarters of a million annually contributed to run them; ninety thousand children under intellectual and moral training; a number of graded and high schools; four normal schools in vigorous operation, for which we are annually expending, out of the State treasury, over \$8,000; a university on which we bestow over \$16,000; and other private and corporate institutions, among them one college largely endowed, and through its four hundred graduates, already enjoying a national reputation, West Virginia may well be proud of her position in this highest expression of a people's patriotism and enterprise. Within less than a single decade there was, outside of the City of Wheeling, scarcely a free school in the State. Now they rise up to greet us beside every highway, and betoken a future of rapid and vigorous improvement. This is a revolution that cannot go backward. It creates its own momentum. It moves by a power within, which increases as it moves, and which strikes out the light and heat of its own vitality."

#### THE FREE SCHOOL SYSTEM UNDER THE SECOND CONSTITUTION.

In the year 1870, the political control of the State passed from the Republican party into the hands of the Democratic party, and in 1871 the

people sustained a call for a constitutional convention, and elected the delegates to the same, which assembled in Charleston on the 16th day of January, 1872. The people were represented in this convention by many of the ablest men of both political parties in the State. If any fears in regard to the future of the free school system were entertained by its friends on account of the change in party supremacy, they were soon completely removed by the adoption of the following provision by the new convention: "The Legislature shall provide by general law for a thorough and efficient system of free schools." This and other liberal provisions adopted in behalf of the support and administration of the free schools, and for the encouragement of education in general were sufficient to show that no matter what questions of public policy might divide the various political parties, so far as the whole subject of education was concerned there was but one party.

The free school law adopted in 1873 under the new Constitution with some slight amendments, is still the present law.

#### ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE FREE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

In the organization of the free school system the existing political divisions have been used as far as practicable.

The regular civil, county and State officers collect and disburse the school revenues. Every magisterial district in each county is made a school district, which is divided into as many sub-districts as may be necessary for the convenience of the schools therein.

The officers charged with the administration of the school system are:—

- (1) Sub-district trustees.
- (2) District Boards of Education.
- (3) A County Superintendent of Free Schools.
- (4) A State Superintendent of Free Schools.

The general control of the schools of each district is placed in the hands of a board of education, composed of a president and two commissioners elected by the people, which is made a corporation capable of suing and being sued, of contracting and buying and selling property for the school purposes of the district.

The principal duties of the board are to fix the length of the school term, lay the school levies, determine the number of sub-districts, locate and build the school houses, supply them with furniture and appliances, transact the financial interests of the district and exercise a general supervision over all the educational interests of the district.

The trustees of each sub-district serve three years and are appointed by

the boards of education. They have charge of the school or schools in their respective sub-districts, appoint the teachers, subject to the approval of the Board of Education of the district, purchase fuel, see that the school house is kept in repair and proper condition for the use of the school, and exercise immediate control over the interests of the school.

The County Superintendent is elected by the people and serves for a term of two years. His duties are to distribute the State school fund to the several districts, distribute the school blanks to Boards of Education, encourage and attend county institutes, to act as president of the County Board of Examiners, and keep a register of teachers' certificates and to report to the State Superintendent.

The State Superintendent is elected by the people, and serves for a term of four years, and is required to reside at the capital. He exercises a general supervision over the free school system and is charged with the preparation and distribution of all school blanks, the apportionment of the State school fund, and the organization of teachers' institutes. It is his duty also to collect the school statistics and make annual report to the Governor of the condition of the school system.

#### REVENUES FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE FREE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

The Constitution under sections 4 and 5 of Article XII contains the following provisions for the support of the free schools:

4. The existing permanent and invested school fund, and all money accruing to this State from forfeited, delinquent, waste and unappropriated lands; and from lands heretofore sold for taxes and purchased by the State of Virginia, if hereafter redeemed or sold to other than this State, all grants, devises or bequests that may be made to this State for the purposes of education or where the purposes of such grants, devises or bequests are not specified; this State's just share of the Literary Fund of Virginia, whether paid over or otherwise liquidated; and any sums of money, stocks or property which this State shall have the right to claim from the State of Virginia for educational purposes; the proceeds of the estates of persons who may die without leaving will or heir, and of all escheated lands; the proceeds of any taxes that may be levied on the revenues of any corporations; all moneys that may be paid as an equivalent for exemption from military duty; and such sums as may from time to time be appropriated by the Legislature for the purpose, shall be set apart as a separate fund, to be called the "School Fund," and invested under such regulations as may be prescribed by law, in the interest-bearing securities of the United States, or of this State,



or if such interest-bearing securities cannot be obtained, then said "School Fund" shall be invested in such other solvent, interest-bearing securities as shall be approved by the Governor, Superintendent of Free Schools, Auditor and Treasurer, who are hereby constituted the "Board of the School Fund," to manage the same under such regulations as may be prescribed by law; and the interest thereof shall be annually applied to the support of free schools throughout the State, and to no other purpose whatever. But any portion of said interest remaining unexpended at the close of a fiscal year shall be applied to and remain a part of the capital of the "School Fund." Provided, that all taxes which shall be received by the State upon delinquent lands, except the taxes due to the State thereon, shall be refunded to the county or district by or for which the same were levied.

5. The Legislature shall provide for the support of free schools, by appropriating thereto the interest of the invested "School Fund," the net proceeds of all forfeitures and fines accruing to this State under the laws thereof; the State capitation tax, and by general taxation of persons and property or otherwise. It shall also provide for raising in each county or district, by the authority of the people thereof, such a proportion of the amount required for the support of free schools therein as shall be prescribed by general laws.

The State tax, provided for in section 5, has thus far been fixed at ten cents on the one hundred dollars valuation of all property; and the amount distributed each year will be found in the statistical tables given elsewhere in this sketch.

The local levy for the support of free schools has been limited, thus far in their history, to the school district, and the district Boards of Education are required to levy annually such a tax on the property taxable in the district as will, with the money received from the State for the support of free schools, be sufficient to keep such schools in operation for at least four months in the year.

In the primary schools the branches required to be taught are orthography, reading, penmanship, arithmetic, English grammar, history, geography, single entry bookkeeping and civil government, the last two branches having been added in 1890.

#### GRADED SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOLS.

In the organization of the free school system, provision was made for the establishment of graded schools and high schools. Boards of Education, on their own authority, may establish graded schools in towns and villages and densely populated neighborhoods, but before a district high school can

be established, the question must first be submitted to the people of the district and receive not less than three-fifths of the votes cast. The number of high schools reported by the State Superintendent for 1892 was seventeen, and the number of graded schools one hundred and forty-five. The high schools composing the list above reported are not district high schools, as contemplated by the general school law, but with one or two exceptions they form part of the graded schools of independent districts, which have been established by special laws. It was the design of those who framed the school law to make the high school an essential part of the free school system, but the development of high school facilities has kept pace thus far in the history of the State neither with the growth nor the needs of the system.

# SKETCHES OF COUNTIES.

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## CHAPTER II.\*

### PRESTON COUNTY.

“West Virginia! land of treasure  
Buried in the silent earth—  
Nature’s gift in boundless measure,  
Waiting him who calls it forth,  
Be that wealth no longer lost,  
Let thy sons with regal spirit,  
Claim the kingdom they inherit,  
Whatsoe’er that claim may cost.  
Fairer than the fairest sky.”

—D. B. Purinton.

Blaine, in his “Twenty Years of Congress,” stated of the West Virginians when they were formed into a State: “They enjoyed a climate as genial as that of the Italians who dwell on the slopes of the Apennines; they had forests more valuable than those that skirt the Upper Rhine; they had mineral wealth as great as that which had given England her precedence in the manufacturing progress of the world.”

The people of Preston County are fortunate that everything contained in the language of the eloquent and distinguished American statesman is shared by them.

Preston is one of the important counties of the important State of West Virginia. It borders on two States—Pennsylvania and Maryland—and four counties of West Virginia—Tucker, Barbour, Taylor and Monongalia. Preston County was formed from Monongalia in 1818. It has an area of 678 square miles, being one of the larger counties of the State. It extends along

\*The greater portion of the matter contained in this chapter was taken from “The Wheeling Intelligencer.”

the full eastern Maryland line, a distance of thirty-six miles, and along the Mason and Dixon line twenty miles.

It has several natural, besides its civil divisions. The Briery Mountains divide the county into four parts, with the larger portion west. The mountains run from northeast to southwest, while Cheat River runs from southeast to northwest, cutting the county into nearer equal parts. East of Cheat River the civil divisions are: Grant, Pleasant, Portland and Union districts; west, are Reno, Lyon, Kingwood and Valley. The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad runs from east to west, south of the center.

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Kingwood, county seat; formed January 19, 1818, from Monongalia County; named for Governor James T. Preston; population, 20,355; assessed value of real and personal property, \$3,374,263; county tax on \$100 valuation, 65 cents.

The situation of this county is important. It is the northernmost county of the State; is separated from Fayette County, Pa., on the north by the famous Mason and Dixon line; its eastern boundary is the line between Maryland and West Virginia, and on the south and west it adjoins Tucker, Barbour, Taylor, Marion and Monongalia. The surface is mountainous, hilly and rolling, and "glady." The soil is sandy, sandy loam, clay loam, and calcareous loam. The glade land has a deep, black, unctuous soil, often several feet deep, and is very rich. The soil on the levels is twelve to eighteen inches; on the hills four to ten inches. The principal streams in the county are the Cheat River, Big Sandy, Little Sandy, Middle Creek, Buffalo, Three Fork, Raccoon, Sandy and Decker's Creek, with numerous smaller streams. The Cheat River is used extensively for floating rafts of logs and lumber, flowing into the county from the vast timber regions of Tucker and Randolph Counties.

The great thoroughfare of the county is the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, passing through from east to west, almost in the center of the county, entering in the east from Garrett County, Maryland, seven miles from Oakland. Another road—the Iron Valley—runs from the Baltimore & Ohio in the western part of the county to the Irondale furnace, a distance of three miles. The Tunnelton, Kingwood & Fairchance Railroad runs from Tunnelton, on the Baltimore & Ohio, to Kingwood, the county seat, a distance of eleven miles. It is one of the best paying railroads in the State.

The mountainous (though not rough) character of Preston's surface, standing at an altitude at her highest points of from 1,800 to 2,500 feet above sea level, with her numberless streams of clear, cool, life-giving water, make

the climate one of the purest and most healthful on the globe. Kingwood, Terra Alta, Aurora and Eglan are well furnished with summer hotels, and at these places, from June to October, many city people rest and recuperate.

It is in her mineral resources, however, that Preston is unsurpassed, if equaled, by any other county of the State. Coal, excellent for both steam and gas, and for coke; iron ore, pottery and fire clays, limestone, glass sand, building sand—all these we have in abundance. At the Irondale furnace the coal, coke, iron ore and the limestone are all dug out of ore produced on the furnace lands. The coals are universally of the coking kind, and so pure that they are fast becoming justly celebrated for the production of coke of the highest grade. Iron ore is everywhere abundant in the county. It is found in all the eight townships, and has been opened at numerous places. Thickness of veins varies from three to ten feet. Fire and potters' clays are found in Reno, Portland and Kingwood Townships, and probably exist elsewhere. The Newburg shaft bored through forty-four feet of them. About three and a half miles north of Tunnerton the Tunnelton, Kenwood & Fairchance Railroad cuts through the upper vein of this clay, which, by actual test, has proved equal to the celebrated Mt. Savage clay. Preston has long been quoted as one of the principal grazing counties in the State. Large herds of cattle and horses are kept and wintered and re-wintered in the county, and sold at a fine profit in the eastern market. No better county in the State for sheep raising. Many large and valuable tracts of timber lands still remain untouched. The principal timbers are white oak and poplar. The standing and condition of the public schools are excellent.

The Austen Coke Works, at Austen, on the Baltimore & Ohio, mines and cokes the Upper Freeport. The Newburg Orrel Coal and Coke Company, on the Baltimore & Ohio, owns 1,800 acres of coal. They have 105 coke ovens, with 45,000 tons' capacity per year. The Irondale furnace mines coal, ore and limestone, and coke is made on the premises. There are a dozen shook shops in different parts of the county.

#### BERKELEY COUNTY.

Martinsburg, county seat; formed February, 1772, from Frederick County; named for Governor William Berkeley; area, 320 square miles; population, 18,702; assessed value of real and personal property, \$6,021,179; county tax on \$100 valuation, 45 cents.

Berkeley County lies at the northerly end of the great valley which thirty-four years ago was the highway and battleground of contending armies, and is the natural outlet to the Northern markets of Philadelphia and New York;

while the Potomac River, Chesapeake & Ohio Canal and the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad afford rapid and economical means of transportation for its agricultural and mineral products to Baltimore, the seaboard and European markets. Though one of the oldest counties, it is only beginning to realize its wealth of natural advantage and position. Its climate is mild and wholesome. It lies near enough the mountains to be cool in Summer, yet far enough east to escape the severity of Winter, storms and floods.

The county extends about twenty-five miles from the line of Frederick County, Va., northeasterly with the strike of the mountains, and between Sleepy Creek Mountain and the Potomac River. It embraces every kind of soil from the alluvian and loam of the river bottom, through clays, the limestone formation and sand, to the shales and conglomerate of the mountains on its westerly border, and is underlaid in many places with marl and phosphates of much value, though undeveloped. Wheat of very fine grade is raised. Other cereals and general farm products do well, and much of the land seems especially adapted to the raising of small fruits. A number of plantations of peaches, extending to thousands of trees, have been started within the last few years, and the older trees give promise of a very fine crop during the present season.

The school system works easily, composing district and high schools. The schools are eighty in number, employing over 100 teachers, and are well attended. There are also several flourishing private schools. In the county are thirty-eight churches, divided among the Baptists, Episcopalians, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians, Roman Catholics and United Brethren.

The railroads are the Baltimore & Ohio, seventy-four miles from Washington and 100 miles from Baltimore; and the Cumberland Valley, formerly running only from Harrisburg to Martinsburg, but recently extended south to Winchester, and there connecting with roads to Staunton and Southwestern Virginia, while north it connects with the Pennsylvania system and the Western Maryland. The Chesapeake & Ohio Canal affords another outlet to tide water, which is of great value to the county.

Two of the best turnpike roads in the State intersect at Martinsburg—the old Winchester pike from Staunton and Winchester to the Potomac and on to Cumberland, and the Hampshire grade road, extending west to Romney.

Limestone exists in large quantities and of especially fine quality. The lime burned here is in demand, and regularly shipped to Pittsburgh for glass and iron manufacturing. Iron exists in many places throughout the county. Fine grade pipe ore has been mined near Martinsburg, while brown

hematite is found in the western and northern portions of the county, where manganese also appears, though its extent has not been ascertained. In the Sleepy Creek Mountain, extending along the whole westerly side of Berkeley County, is a basin of anthracite, some fifteen miles in length and one and a half miles wide, with veins varying from three to eight feet in thickness, the anthracite being of fine quality, but not yet mined for market. Fire clay exists in conjunction with the anthracite, and a very beautiful soapstone. Building stone is a semi-marble limestone, and is abundant.

Some of the hill land is well adapted to raising cattle and horses, but more money is made in wool and sheep. About two-thirds of the county is cleared and improved, though much of it is not now under cultivation. Improved farms range in value from \$100 to \$8 per acre, averaging about \$30. Unimproved land varies from \$2 to \$10 per acre, averaging \$5.

Within the past few years several Maryland and Pennsylvania farmers have bought low-priced farms in Berkeley at one-fifth the cost of their former land, with a view of high cultivation, thus advancing their values to something like those of similar farms across the Potomac. Some of the farms have been already rendered valuable by this system.

Among the established industries are a woodpulp mill, steam and water power flouring mills, saw mills, two tanneries doing a large business, the extensive Hannisville distillery, the Lime Kiln Company, grain elevators, cigar factory, two brick yards, a pottery, sash and blind factory, planing mill, new steam knitting works and hosiery factory and a new woolen mill.

Pine lumber is manufactured in limited quantity. A great deal of good oak and poplar remains throughout the county. There is a good demand for the oak for car-building and for direct shipment to Europe. A great deal of second growth hickory is found in the mountains, and a spoke and handle factory would do well here to work it up.

Martinsburg, the county seat, is a town of about 8,000 inhabitants, is the shipping point for the county, and is one of the oldest and most important cities in the State, socially and politically. Within the past year a marked increase has taken place in values and business activity, the railroad extension to Winchester having been of much value to the city.

Agriculturally, Berkeley is one of the best counties in the State—having a good soil, well watered by the Opequan, Tuscanova, Back Creek, Elk Creek, Meadow Branch and Cherry Run. To settlers it offers the inducements of low-priced lands, ample competing transportation to the great markets of the country, good social, school and church privileges, and low cost of living—all of these to be had within 100 miles of the seaboard, at

a cost very little more than that of land 1,500 miles farther west, and with the manifold advantages that gather in a community during a century of civilization.

#### JEFFERSON COUNTY.

Charlestown, county seat; formed January 8, 1891, from Berkeley; named for Thomas Jefferson; area, 280 square miles; population, 15,553; assessed value of real and personal property, \$6,730,859; county tax on \$100 valuation, 40 cents.

Jefferson County is the eastern extremity of the State and is noted for the great fertility of its soil and its rich mineral resources. It is one of the garden spots of the State, and no county possesses greater advantages or offers stronger inducements to the newcomer.

Harper's Ferry, at the junction of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers, rests in the center of a triangle formed by the three heights, viz: Maryland, Loudoun and Bolivar, each being in a different State. The entire county is of limestone formation, except that part which lies between the Shenandoah River and the Blue Ridge Mountains on the east side of the county, which has a slate and sandstone surface formation.

No county in West Virginia has better shipping facilities. The main line of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad runs through the county. From Harper's Ferry the Potomac & Winchester Branch of the Baltimore & Ohio runs through the county to beyond Summit Point. And from Shepherdstown on the north, the Norfolk & Western Railroad extends through the entire length of the county to beyond Ripon, crossing the Baltimore & Ohio at the junction, and the Winchester Branch at Charlestown. To these may be added the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal.

Iron ore of from fifty to sixty per cent. of pure iron, and in paying quantities, has been mined and shipped to some extent. Washed specimens of lead have been picked up. A great iron industry will be built up here, and the ore will be developed on an extensive plan. Limestone and marble are in abundance, also building stone.

Nowhere have the hard woods been more in request than the hickory, walnut and white oak of Jefferson County. Bark and sawed lumber is plentiful in the market.

The character of the soil is clay, loam and shale—for grain and grass unsurpassed in the State and seldom equaled in fertility. The adaptability of the soil for grain and stock raising is unexcelled, while the nearness to the eastern markets gives it an advantage over other sections of the State. Spring lambs, poultry, butter, eggs and all kinds of farm produce from the



country are in the eastern city markets from two to four hours from the place of production, while fruit cultivation is an industry with great possibilities. The highest price for improved land is \$200 per acre; the lowest \$5; average \$40. The unimproved lands are so few that they are scarcely estimated.

The Charlestown Mining, Manufacturing and Improvement Company have a capital stock of \$500,000, of which they have placed over half of the stock and have located a brass and iron manufactory, and will make steam and plumbers' fixtures. A harness manufactory and a glass manufactory have also located. At Harper's Ferry the woodpulp mills are busy every day. The cement works on the Potomac River below Shepherdstown turn out a superior quality of hydraulic cement. The two flour milling companies on the Shenandoah River are prosperous enterprises.

#### BOONE COUNTY.

Madison, county seat; formed March 11, 1847, from Cabell, Kanawha and Logan; named for Daniel Boone; area, 515 square miles; population, 6,885; assessed value of real and personal property, \$715,152; county tax on \$100 valuation, 50 cents.

Boone County is one of the richest in resources in the State and will be the scene of great activity in the near future. Recently it has made great advancement in every way. There are at present in the county fifty-four public schools with fifty-four teachers and 1,600 pupils in attendance. The schools are run four months in the year. There are two Methodist and one Baptist church in the county. There is one newspaper published in the county, the Racine Democrat, published weekly.

There are no existing railroads in the county, but several projected lines, any of which, if built, will run the whole length of the county. The St. Albans & Boone County Railroad enters the county at the northern extremity, runs up Little Coal Run, through the entire length of the county, a distance of sixty miles, to Wyoming County. The Kentucky & Tennessee road enters the county at the northeast, runs through the entire width of the county from northeast to southwest, crossing the line of the St. Albans to Boone County road, and passing into Logan County, thence into Kentucky. The Field's Creek Branch of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad enters the county at the east and runs across the county to Little Coal River.

The waterways are Big and Little Coal Rivers and their tributaries. They are utilized for floating logs and timber, and for transportation by push boats

as far as Madison, on Little Coal River, a distance of sixty miles. The falls of these rivers make a valuable water power. High up the streams and in the swollen creeks splash dams are used for floating timber to floatable water. There are no turnpikes in the county, but there are a number of good dirt roads running in every direction.

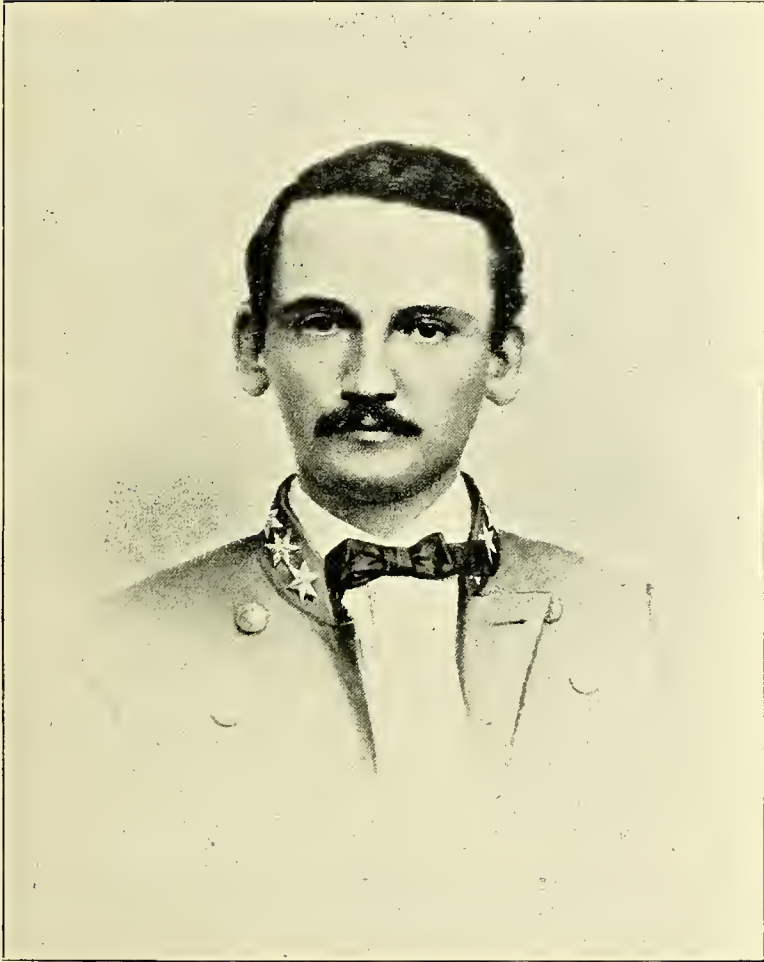
The soil is a sandy or clay loam, is very fertile in the valleys and flats, on the mountains, well adapted to farming, grazing and fruit growing. Fruit produces an abundant yield. Farming and lumbering are the principal industries. The land has not been used for grazing purposes, but most of the grasses thrive. Horses, sheep, cattle and hogs are raised, generally scrub stock; but attention is now being paid to breeding and raising blooded stock. Sheep, cattle and horse breeding are profitable enterprises.

The acreage of coal in this county is estimated at 350,000 acres. The coal is of various kinds, splint, cannel and common bituminous are the most common. The veins are from eighteen inches to fourteen feet thick. Many veins of cannel coal have been found more than four feet in thickness. The only coal that has been developed is that found in the hills above water level and is only used for domestic purposes. Soft cooking coal is found in abundance in the southern part of the county.

Iron is also found in good quantity, consisting of black band, gray and hematite. The iron, however, is yet totally undeveloped. Fire clay of good quality and in large quantities has been found in the county. Until within the last two years there were two manufactories of earthenware in operation in the county, but for want of the proper facilities for transportation, have been abandoned.

Seven-tenths of the county is still in virgin forest. The timber consists of poplar, ash, walnut, hickory, maple, beech, birch, buckeye, lynn, pine, hemlock, sycamore, black, red and white oak, cherry, chestnut, locust and dogwood. The trees attain a large growth, and the timber is sound and of good quality. Big and Little Coal Rivers and their tributaries afford excellent facilities for shipping timber to St. Albans, on the Kanawha River. There are several timber companies operating in the county on an extensive scale.

The highest price of improved land is \$50 per acre, the lowest price for improved land is \$5 per acre, average about \$8 per acre. The highest price for unimproved land is \$7 per acre and the lowest price \$3 per acre, average about \$5 per acre. The prices on coal and timber lands are advancing very rapidly, and both large and small tracts are being transferred every day. At the present rate of increase the lands will be bringing fabulous prices in a very few years. Owing to the great quantity and superior quality of its



*John P. Tucker*



coal and timber and other natural advantages, it affords magnificent openings for all kinds of mining and manufacturing industries, and the people would offer the best of inducements to capitalists to invest money and establish manufactories, and if they had assurance that a railroad would be built they would subscribe liberally in land and timber.

#### GREENBRIER COUNTY.

Lewisburg, county seat; formed October, 1777, from Boutetourt and Montgomery; named for the Greenbrier River, and the river from the briers that troubled the first settlers; area, 1,050 square miles; population, 18,034; assessed value of real and personal property, \$5,291,552; county tax on \$100 valuation, 33 1-3 cents.

This county is traversed for about thirty miles by the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway, which runs in an east and west direction through it. There are nearly one hundred churches, representing the Catholic, Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist denominations, and about 130 schools with the same number of teachers and nearly 4,000 pupils. There are two newspapers, the Greenbrier Independent and the Valley Messenger. There are two banks, one at Lewisburg and the other at Ronceverts, each with a capital of \$40,000. Both have large deposits.

About one-fourth of the county is limestone land and very rich, the soil producing all kinds of grain well and bearing blue grass in profusion. In fact, the land lets in blue grass spontaneously as soon as the timber is taken off. Of the residue about one-half is in forest and the other one-fourth in freestone land. A part of this latter, the Meadow Bluff section, is level, smooth and rich. The whole county is well watered by springs and running streams. The land is held in large farms, the county is sparsely settled, and the chief industry of the people is cattle-raising. There are about 13,000 cattle, 10,000 sheep, and 4,500 horses in the county. The county sends out about 3,000 head of fat cattle each year in the Summer and Fall. Of these cattle a good per cent. stands as first-class, averaging about 1,300 pounds per head. Sheep do very well here. Spring lambs weigh from seventy to eighty pounds per head at six months old, and the clip of the county will average about six pounds of wool per sheep.

White pine grows in plenty in the eastern part of the county. White oak, red oak, black oak, poplar, walnut, hickory, ash, sugar and locust grow to large size in the central part of the county, and in the northwestern part are thousands of acres of sugar, cherry and mountain birch timber, in which the ax has never been heard. The land on which this timber grows is good, and will set in blue grass as soon as it is cleared. There are 100,000

acres of this land which is almost in a state of nature and which will make good farming and grazing land. The Clinton and the Oriskany formations show iron ore in the eastern part of the county. This ore is found in considerable quantity and of excellent quality. Fire clay is also found in the same locality. In the west and northwestern part of the county are at least 100,000 acres of land underlaid by from three to six feet of coal, of excellent quality to make coke. This is the same coal mined on New River at Sewell, Stone Cliff, Fire Creek and other points above Hawk's Nest. In some places there are two veins of coal, one about three feet, the other nearly five feet thick.

Openings.—1. Intelligent farming and grazing. 2. Tanning (any quantity of hemlock and chestnut oak and of hides). 3. Developing and working the coal veins in the western part and coking the coal. 4. Getting out the timber in the northwest part and working it up. 5. Building a railroad through the county from the Chesapeake & Ohio to the coal and timber.

#### WYOMING COUNTY.

Oceana, county seat; formed January 26, 1850; name, corruption of Indian term signifying a plain; area, 660 square miles; population, 6,247; assessed value of real and personal property, \$484,009; county tax on \$100 valuation, 80 cents.

Wyoming county has a good deal of rough, broken land. The soil is a loam, or sandy loam, very rich and deep on the bottoms. The land is very productive, the principal industries are stock raising and lumbering. The Norfolk & Western extension to Ironton, Ohio, on the Ohio River, runs through the county. The principal stream in the county is the Guyan River, which is utilized for floating lumber to market.

The forests of the county contain very fine timber, and a large number of men are employed cutting it for the market. There is much fine building stone. Coal is found in workable seams. Many people are employed in collecting ginseng. The county offers many advantages for stock raising. A large amount of tobacco is raised in the county. New people are wanted to develop the rich resources.

#### LEWIS COUNTY.

Weston, county seat; Lewis County was organized in 1817; the present population is 16,000, 2,500 of whom are of foreign extraction.

The west fork of the Monongahela River rises in its southern part and flows through it in a northerly direction, affording, with its numerous tribu-

tary creeks, a good outlet for timber, and a fair water power. The headwaters of the Little Kanawha River likewise rise near and flow through the southern part. The Staunton & Parkersburg, the Weston & Gauley Bridge, the Weston & West Union, and the Buckhannon & Little Kanawha turnpikes traverse the county. The West Virginia & Pittsburgh Railroad from Clarksburg to Weston, thence to Buckhannon, and on to Perkins. With one division from Weston to Sutton, the only railroad in Lewis County is doing a paying business.

Coal.—The whole area of the county is underlaid by a fine quality of bituminous coal, known by actual tests to be well adapted to coking. The veins range in thickness from five to fourteen feet. A fine quality of fire clay is found. Limestone is found, but not in thick veins. Almost everywhere is found bluish-gray sandstone, hard and comparatively free from sulphur and iron, retaining its color well and very valuable for building purposes. Potters' clay is obtained of a very superior quality. A fine clay for making fire brick is found here; also for sewer pipe. Good glass sand is found. Several well equipped brickyards do a good local business at Weston. Perhaps one-half of the land is cleared, the rest for the most part belonging to cultivated farms. From the forest land a good deal of the poplar and walnut, and but little of the fine oak found everywhere, has been taken.

Character of Soil and Crops.—The county is hilly, but not rocky or mountainous, is well watered, and interspersed everywhere with rich and productive valleys. The value for improved lands ranges from \$10 to \$100, and for unimproved from \$5 to \$12. Perhaps a not well-considered average valuation would be \$17 for former, and \$7 for the latter. The soil, which is of a limestone character, is for the most part quite fertile, and the whole country can, almost, without exception, be cultivated to the hill tops, seldom failing to produce the best of returns. All kinds of fruits, especially apples and grapes, thrive well. The principal crops are wheat, rye, oats, corn and tobacco. The farmers are largely engaged in grazing. Grass of all kinds readily grows everywhere, and few if any counties in the State excel it for stock purposes. The county is particularly adapted to sheep and the breeds have been materially improved in later years. The same may be said of cattle and horses. The total assessed valuation of property amounts to \$3,313,688. At Weston, the county seat, is situated the Hospital for the Insane. About \$100,000 are annually expended for its current expenses, much of which remains in this county. Weston itself is a thriving, prosperous town of some 2,500 inhabitants, prettily situated, well laid off, and containing many handsome residences and substantial business houses; also

six churches, a high school, an opera house, four hotels, a roller flour mill, a National Exchange Bank with a capital of \$100,000, and nearly all the ordinary necessary industries.

Openings for New Enterprises.—Weston presents a rare opening for a well-equipped tannery, a handle factory, a broom factory, a stave factory, a planing mill, a furniture factory, a woodpulp factory, or any wooden manufactory, a carriage factory, a pottery, and especially a good woolen factory, the only one here having been destroyed by fire some years since. A further glance at our county shows some fifteen or twenty small villages, 110 free schools and teachers, with an enrollment of 2,860 scholars, about eighteen grist mills, and about forty churches of all denominations. That the thrifty immigrant can succeed in Lewis County has already been proven.

Upon the whole our people are law-abiding, hospitable, contented, and prosperous. The county invites immigration, labor, capital, and new industries, and is ready to extend a cordial welcome to all who come.

#### WETZEL COUNTY.

New Martinsville, county seat; formed January 10, 1846, from Tyler County; named for Lewis Wetzel; area, 550 square miles; population, 16,841; assessed value of real and personal property, \$2,426,010; county tax on \$100 valuation, 60 cents.

Wetzel County is one of the largest counties in the State. It has an Ohio River frontage of about fifteen miles, and extends back in an easterly direction, adjoining the counties of Greene, in the State of Pennsylvania, and Monongalia, Marion and Doddridge, in West Virginia. The most of the county consists of broken hill land, possessing in a great degree the grandeur of mountain scenery, yet mostly tillable and of very great fertility, as much as eighty bushels of corn being often raised to the acre in the rich coves that lie at the head of the streams. That portion lying along the water courses (bottom land) is of such never-ending fertility as to produce, without fertilizers, bounteous crops of all kinds from year to year. The streams that course through the county run swiftly over gravelly and rocky beds. The water is clear and cold and abounds in such fine game fish as black bass and jack salmon. Small game of all kinds abound. On the head of the south fork of Big Fishing Creek, which is the principal water of the county, empties into the Ohio at New Martinsville, a stream sufficiently large for rafting purposes and down which millions of feet of lumber is brought annually to market, is a twelve-foot vein of as clean



bituminous coal as any in the State. A proposed railroad through this coal field will sooner or later bring all this wealth to market.

Fruit gardens yield generous crops of apples, pears, cherries, plums, apricots, grapes, raspberries, blackberries, strawberries, gooseberries, currants, etc., as fine in size, flavor, color, and texture as may be found in the most favored climates. All the domestic grasses do well. There are timothy meadows in the county equal to any locality. Red clover, the finest general fertilizer known to American husbandry, makes a splendid showing on all the soils of the county; white clover is universal, while blue grass, that imperial, tenacious, nutritious, all conquering king of all grasses, is steadily making the conquest of the entire county.

There are two railways in the county. The Ohio River Railroad traverses the county along the Ohio River for a distance of about fifteen miles, while the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad traverses the districts of Clay and Church in the back part of the county for a distance of about fifteen miles. This gives the county about thirty miles of track, with eleven shipping stations. Here in Wetzel County fuel is cheap, lumber and all kinds of building material are cheap; lands are cheap. Wild lands sell from \$5 to \$10 per acre, and improved farms from \$10 to \$30 per acre, according to soils, location and improvement—I speak now of hill lands. Ohio River bottom farms range from \$60 to \$100 per acre, or even more, according to location and improvement. There is not much of this land for sale.

#### CLAY COUNTY.

Clay C. H., county seat; formed March 29, 1858, from Braxton and Nicholas; named for Henry Clay; area, 325 square miles; population, 4,659; assessed value of real and personal property, \$440,270; county tax on \$100 valuation, 60 cents.

Clay County has been very little developed, the land being mostly wild and in very large tracts. The soil is fertile, in some parts it is a stiff clay, and in others a clay or sandy loam. The Elk River is the principal stream, which is navigable seventy miles from its mouth for small steamboats, and 100 miles to Sutton in Braxton County for batteaux. It is utilized for rafting and drifting lumber to Charleston. The river also furnishes an excellent water power. There are no existing railroads in the county, although several are contemplated, having Charleston for their starting point, and for which preliminary surveys have been made. One newspaper is published at the county seat, the Clay County Star. The county has a number of churches, the Methodist and Baptist denominations predominating. The county roads

are well constructed and maintained in good order. The land is adapted for grazing and stock raising. Sheep do well.

There are a number of veins of splint, cannel and soft bituminous coals, varying in thickness from two to ten feet, in fine seams. Workable beds of iron ore are found. There is some limestone and sandstone and plenty of sand for building purposes. Fire clay is present in abundance.

The market value of improved farm land ranges from \$30 to \$5 per acre, the average being \$17.50. Unimproved lands fit for farming or grazing, bring \$10 and sell as low as \$1; average \$5.50. The uncleared lands comprise 99 per cent. of the total area, the average price of which is \$5. This includes coal lands. The land is appreciating in value, because the price of lumber is advancing, and on account of the contemplated construction of railroads in the near future. There are quite a number of grist mills in the county. There are a few stationary and quite a number of portable saw mills. The timber consists of poplar, white, black and Spanish oak and chestnut; also, a very fine quality of black walnut. Timber cutting is engaged in extensively by six firms, and about two hundred individual operators.

#### WOOD COUNTY.

Parkersburg, county seat; formed December 21, 1798, from Harrison county; named for Governor James Wood; area, 375 square miles; population, 28,612; assessed value of real and personal property, \$9,214,324; county tax on \$100 valuation, 65 cents.

Since the industrial edition of the *Intelligencer* was published in 1888, Wood County generally, and the city of Parkersburg especially, have advanced greatly along many important lines. Parkersburg has paved her principal streets with fire brick, put in a complete system of underground sewers, constructed and put into operation street railway lines, built two fine hotels, erected the largest, most artistic and best equipped High School building in West Virginia, built four new churches—two at Riverside, one in the East End, one (colored) in the lower part of the city—and a lot has been purchased for still another in the East End, erected a great number of elegant dwelling houses, established a \$100,000 chair and furniture factory, a large plant for the manufacture of steel wire nail machines, a veneer and panel works, a coffee-roasting plant, built a \$125,000 brewery, numerous new business houses, secured the permanent transfer of the offices of the Internal Revenue Department to this city, established a new criminal court, raised funds to start a public library, established a new daily newspaper, built a massive new county jail, opened a Y. M. C. A. park,

erected a big artificial ice plant, established water works for the suburbs of the city.

The improvements above mentioned are but some of the many steps forward recently taken by the old town. The county, too, has made marked improvement, especially in the building of a number of excellent iron bridges over the small streams running through the county, the erection of new school houses and churches, and the greater pride which seems to be taken in the home surroundings. The people of Wood County think they have one of the best places in the world to live and they have good reason to believe so. The extensive and marvelously rich bottoms of the Ohio and Little Kanawha Rivers produce grains, fruits and vegetables in great abundance. "Truck" gardens are numerous, and the growing of all kinds of vegetables is a great industry. Farther back in the county are the hill lands, where apples grow to a perfection reached in but few other localities in the United States; also peaches, pears and other fruits. This hill land back from the bottoms is well adapted to grazing, the genuine blue grass growing luxuriantly in the limestone soil, and Wood County has a large number of splendid stock farms. The raising of fine horses, cattle and sheep is an industry which is rapidly growing. Large sums of money are invested, and some of the Wood County stock farms are attracting wide attention.

Wood County borders on the Ohio River for nineteen miles above the mouth of the Little Kanawha, and for twenty miles below, a total of thirty-nine miles. The Little Kanawha takes a northwesterly course through the center of the county, and is locked and dammed to Elizabeth, in Wirt County, which enables steamboats to pass up daily to Burning Springs, in Wirt County, thirty-eight miles above Parkersburg, and frequently to Grantsville, in Calhoun County.

The shipping facilities of the county and of the City of Parkersburg are remarkably good. In addition to the Ohio and Little Kanawha Rivers, at the junction of which the city stands, the Ohio River Railroad runs north and south through the city, giving direct communication with Wheeling and Pittsburgh in the north and southern markets in the other direction. East and west the Baltimore & Ohio and the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern run through the city, connecting it directly with Washington, Baltimore and New York on the east and with Cincinnati on the west. Then over a branch of the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern she has communication by way of Marietta, Ohio, with Columbus and the northwest. Thus Parkersburg is a railroad and river center. There are, moreover, four turnpikes centering in the city. There are, therefore, innumerable admirable sites for manufactures of all kinds.

One of the oldest and most profitable oil fields in the country is the Volcano field in this county. It keeps up its production of a splendid quality of oil, which brings about \$4 per barrel, and which is refined at the Camden Oil Works in Parkersburg. The average price of improved land is about \$25 per acre, and the average price of unimproved land is about \$10 per acre. Land lying near the city limits has been sold for as much as \$1,000 per acre, but this is an exception. The highest price of farming land in the county may be put down at about \$225 per acre. Wood County always keeps her doors wide open to the stranger. He is invited to come this way and make his home with her enterprising, hospitable, intelligent and cultured people.

#### HANCOCK COUNTY.

New Cumberland, county seat; formed January 15, 1848, from Brooke County; named for John Hancock; area, 92 square miles; population, 6,414; assessed value of real and personal property, \$2,934,348; county tax on \$100 valuation, 33 1-3 cents.

Hancock is the most northerly county in the State. The soil is calcareous and clayey loam, adapted to the cultivation of corn, oats, barley and wheat, more especially grain. Sheep grazing and wool growing are engaged in extensively. Improved lands range from \$75 to \$250 per acre, and falling as low as \$25; the average is from \$40 to \$60. About 70 per cent. of the land is cleared. The county contains the finest deposits of fire clay in the State, and twenty firms are engaged in mining and manufacturing it into bricks, tiles and sewer pipe. These industries were somewhat hampered in getting the product to market by a lack of shipping facilities. This has been abated by the completion of a branch railroad from the main line of the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railway to New Cumberland, a distance of ten miles, and which runs by the very doors of these extensive establishments. Besides having the advantage of a superior clay, the brick manufactories possess another advantage in the cheap fuel of natural gas. Some idea of the importance of the brick-making feature of the works located at New Cumberland may be obtained from the fact that their combined capacity is 45,000,000 a year. Paving brick is undoubtedly the coming pavement, and that being the case the business is only in its infancy.

The entire county is underlaid with bituminous and cannel coal, the veins ranging from six to seven feet in thickness. The price of coal land is from \$50 to \$60 an acre. The county is anxious to welcome new people. The

only carbon works in the State are located at New Cumberland, and a general foundry and machine shop is steadily employed in supplying the demand for its products. Grist mills are located in different parts of the county. A desirable flagstone is quarried opposite Wellsville, Ohio, which finds a ready sale in the Pittsburgh market. Limestone is found in abundance for building and agricultural purposes. The county roads are maintained in excellent order.

#### BROOKE COUNTY.

Wellsburg, county seat; formed November 30, 1796, from Ohio County; named for Governor Robert Brooke; area, 84 square miles; population, 6,660; assessed value of real and personal property, \$3,079,626; county tax on \$100 valuation, 60 cents.

Brooke County is one of the oldest and most progressive counties in the State. It is situated in the Pan Handle, and is a center of learning and industry. Twenty-three public schools afford employment for thirty-seven teachers. The total attendance is 2,049, including forty-seven colored. At Bethany is located the celebrated college of that name, which enjoys a wide reputation as a seat of learning. The college was founded by the celebrated Alexander Campbell in 1841. The college buildings were erected at a cost of \$100,000, and are the finest of the kind in the country. The Ohio River affords a means of cheap transportation of the products and manufactures of the county. Buffalo, Cross and Harmon's Creeks furnish excellent water power. There are two good turnpikes in the county, one from Bethany to Wellsburg, a distance of seven miles, and the other leading from Wellsburg to the Pennsylvania State line, a distance of six and one-half miles. There are numerous county roads intersecting these turnpikes. The soils are clay and calcareous loams, very fertile, and in a high state of cultivation. Great interest is taken in sheep and cattle breeding, the county being one of the finest in the State for wool growing and raising fine cattle. The yearly wool product amounts to 200,000 pounds. Coal is abundant. The surface vein of the Pittsburgh seam, four and one-half feet in thickness, is mined for home consumption. Five and six feet veins are found 200 and 600 feet below the surface, and of good quality. Limestone is found in abundance. Three veins of fire clay of good quality, having been thoroughly tested, are found in the county. The first vein is 115 feet below the surface, 22 feet thick; second vein 147 feet below the surface, 40 feet in thickness; third vein 205 feet below the surface, and 17 feet in thickness. The timber con-

sists of white oak, hickory, walnut, beech, poplar, chestnut, spruce, pine and a variety of others. Natural gas has been developed and is utilized in heating and lighting the dwellings and furnishing fuel for the manufactories of Wellsburg. Good building sand is found in large quantity.

There are four cigar factories at Wellsburg, employing forty hands. Grist mills are operated and there are five saw mills in the county. Brick-making is engaged in. There are no salt manufacturers, but a strong vein of salt water is found at a depth of 780 feet. Fine building stone quarries are located in different parts of the county, principally operated by private parties, with a home market.

By the discovery of natural gas and the completion of the Pittsburgh, Wheeling & Kentucky Road, Wellsburg, the chief town and county seat, has experienced a steady growth. Owing to the advantages of the location and the facilities for the transportation by river and rail the town affords a fine opening for manufactories of all kinds. It is within two hours' ride of Pittsburgh and one hour's ride of Wheeling, the metropolis of the State. There are already in successful operation an extensive glass works, establishments for the manufacture of straw paper, sack paper and paper sacks, foundry and machine shops. The town is supplied with water by good water works. There are especially good openings for tanneries, potteries and iron mills.

The market value of improved farm land is \$75, average \$50, lowest \$30. Unimproved lands suitable for farming or grazing purposes sell as high as \$50, average \$35, lowest \$20. About three-fourths of the land is cleared, the uncleared one-fourth is worth from \$40 to \$50 per acre.

#### TYLER COUNTY.

Middlebourne, county seat; formed December 16, 1814, from Ohio County; named for Governor John Tyler; area, 330 square miles; population, 11,962; assessed value of real and personal property, \$2,193,265; county tax on \$100 valuation, 76 cents.

Tyler County wants more people. She has the area, the soil and the climate to support a purely agricultural population of 25,000, and her timber, iron, coal and fire clay offer almost unequalled opportunities for the investment of capital. Tyler County lies along the Ohio River, forty miles below Wheeling, and is bounded by Wetzel on the north, Doddridge on the east and Pleasants on the south. There are about twenty grist mills in the county, of which three have roller machinery. Most of these have saw mill attachments. There are about a dozen portable saw mills and two planing mills.

The soil is principally loam, sandy loam and clayey loam, deep and mellow, and prices are increasing. Tyler County is in the upper coal measures. The Pittsburgh vein, which crops out in Harrison County, is about fifty feet beneath the surface at the three forks of McElroy, about 150 feet beneath at Shirley, and probably about 300 feet beneath at Middlebourne. There are many rich deposits of nodular and brown hematite iron ore in the county, but owing to the distance from market none of them have been utilized. About one-third of the area of the county is still covered with magnificent timber, the most valuable trees of which are oak, poplar, walnut and hickory.

#### PLEASANTS COUNTY.

St. Mary's, county seat; formed March 29, 1851, from Wood, Tyler and Ritchie; named for Governor James Pleasants; area, 150 square miles; population, 7,539; assessed value of real and personal property, \$1,350,404; county tax on \$100 valuation, 50 cents.

Pleasants County is a very rich agricultural section, and is the scene of large oil developments. There are twenty-seven churches in the county, representing five denominations. There are forty-five schools. The facilities for transportation are the Ohio River and the Ohio River Railroad. The latter extends through the entire western end of the county, eighteen miles. Middle Island, Bull, French, McKim and Cow Creeks are utilized in floating lumber to the market. The Boreland and Triplett mineral wells are two summer resorts which enjoy a large patronage. The soil on the hills is a clayey loam and on the bottoms a sandy loam, suitable for all kinds of cereals and fruit. Sheep raising is carried on extensively, also cattle and horse raising. There is a vein of coal in the county, but it is not worked to any extent. Lumber is an important industry.

Improved farm land brings \$50 per acre, the average being \$40, and the lowest \$15. Unimproved land fit for farming or grazing commands \$15, selling as low as \$5, the average being \$10. Oil abounds in large quantities and operations for its development are carried on chiefly at Eureka, Belmont and St. Mary's. A considerable portion of this oil is shipped through pipe lines to Morgantown, a distance of seventy-nine miles. The capacity of this line is 186 barrels to the mile. Receiving tanks are located at Eureka with a capacity of 200,000 barrels. A telegraph line extends through the county from Marietta to Mannington.

## OHIO COUNTY.

Wheeling, county seat; formed October, 1776, from West Augusta; named for the river—Indian term for “Beautiful river;” area, 120 square miles; population, 41,557; assessed value of real and personal property, \$20,184,730; county tax on \$100 valuation, 50 cents.

Ohio County, outside of the City of Wheeling, is populous and productive. Being contiguous to the largest city of the State, it is, of course, well advanced in civilization; has churches of many denominations and good schools. There are good streams for water power, though not utilized. The National road extends through the county, and the county roads are equal to those of any State, many of them being macadamized. The soil is mostly a dark loam, is very rich and adapted to all kinds of crops. No better grazing lands exist in the world; its blue grass has no superior. All varieties of fruit suitable to the latitude grow here to perfection. The county is peculiarly adapted to the rearing of sheep, cattle and horses. Sheep have formerly been extensively raised, but owing to the decline in the price of wool, that industry is on the decline. Some very fine horses have been introduced into this section for the purpose of improving the stock.

The limestone, cement clay, building stone, fire clay, brick clay and coal are fine and abundant. About 125,000 pounds of wool are produced annually. There are seven grist mills and ten saw mills. Coal banks are numerous throughout the county. Quite large banks are operated at Elm Grove, supplying coal to all parts of the county and employing a considerable number of men. There is a large tannery and paper mill at Fulton and a large brick works at Triadelphia. A State Normal school is located at West Liberty. Lands range from \$40 to \$100 per acre.

## PENDLETON COUNTY.

Franklin, county seat; formed December 4, 1787, from Augusta, Hardy and Rockingham; named for Edward Pendleton; area, 650 square miles; population, 8,711; assessed value of real and personal property, \$1,735,070; county tax on \$100 valuation, 40 cents.

The surface of Pendleton County is rough, a large portion being mountainous, forming the highest land in the State. The soils are sandy, sandy loams and clayey loams. The forests contain valuable timber, chestnut, oak and white oak, white ash, spruce and white pine existing in great quantities. The land is admirably adapted to grazing and a large amount of cattle are fattened, stock raising and farming being the principal industry of the



people. Brown, red hematite, manganese, black band and fossil iron ores are found in workable quantities. There is an abundance of good limestone for agricultural and building purposes. Potters' clay is found and has been worked with success. In this county are the headwaters of the South Branch of the Potomac. The streams are not navigable. The only means of transportation are by county roads, which are good. Good farming and grazing lands can be purchased at very reasonable figures. The principal exports are cattle, sheep, horses and wool.

There are no railroads, but good prospects for one or two in the future, when the vast acres of mineral and timber wealth will be developed. The highest price for improved land is \$100 and the lowest \$10; the average \$25. The highest price for unimproved land is \$5, and the lowest \$1; the average \$2. About three-fourths of the county is unimproved.

#### JACKSON COUNTY.

Jackson C. H., county seat; formed March 1, 1831, from Mason, Kanawha and Wood; named for the Jackson family; area, 470 square miles; population, 19,021; assessed value of real and personal property, \$3,199,360; county tax on \$100 valuation, 30 cents.

Jackson County fronts on the Ohio River more than twenty-five miles. Some of the best farms along that beautiful river are situated in this county. Back of the river bottoms, the surface is rolling. The bottom lands are alluvial, with a basis of sand and gravel. Many of the hills have a limestone soil, and in some localities have a red clay soil of great productiveness. The soil throughout is suitable for all kinds of grass, grain, fruit and vegetables. It is a good grazing county, and especially adapted to sheep husbandry. The territory is drained by Big Mill Creek and Sand Creek, both emptying into the Ohio River. No coal or iron ore is mined in the county, but in some sections iron ore is believed to exist in paying quantities. Good coal can be obtained about one hundred and eighty feet below the surface, in great quantities. The forests contain oak, poplar, hickory, walnut, chestnut and other valuable timber of the best quality.

The value of farm and other lands depends much upon the location and quality. Average bottom lands on the Ohio River are worth \$75 per acre. Average hill lands, with ordinary improvements, sell at \$10, \$12 and \$15 per acre; unimproved hill lands at about \$8. About one-third of the land in the county is cleared. There is much land for sale. Persons desiring to purchase can do as well in Jackson as any other county in the State. The Ohio River Railroad runs entirely through the county on the river portion.

The Ripley & Mill Creek Valley Railroad extends from the Ohio River Railroad to Ripley, the county seat, a distance of twelve miles. The Ravenswood, Spencer & Glenville Railroad runs from Ravenswood, through Jackson County to Spencer, the county seat of Roane County, a distance of thirty-four miles, and will open up a section of country productive in soil, and rich in timber and minerals.

Ravenswood, on the Ohio River, is the largest town in Jackson County. It has a population of about 1,500. Its people are industrious, intelligent and moral. It has two newspapers, one bank, numerous stores, good hotels, and an excellent graded school. Ripley is the county seat of Jackson, and contains a population of 500. It has several stores, one newspaper, one bank, five churches, and a good high school and subordinate branches. It is a flourishing business place. The people are active, intelligent and generally prosperous. The county has no public indebtedness, except some subscriptions to the railroads by the districts; has good school houses, and other public improvements which compare favorably with those of any other county in the State.

#### MARSHALL COUNTY.

Moundsville, county seat; formed March 12, 1835, from Ohio County; named for Chief Justice Marshall; area, 248 square miles; population, 20,735; assessed value of real and personal property, \$5,882,110; county tax on \$100 valuation, 40 cents.

Holding the entrance from the interior of West Virginia to the famous Pan Handle, Marshall County possesses advantages which few other counties in the State have. In the productiveness of her soil, Marshall County ranks as one of the best counties in the State. Her large area of bottom lands, lying along her numerous streams, the Ohio River, Fish Creek, Wheeling Creek and the three Grave Creeks, is unsurpassed in richness by the soil of any country or clime. In the uplands the soil is of a rich alluvial nature, that holds moisture well and does not part with it on the first appearance of the sun, being devoid of the sandy constituents which render some soils unfit for agriculture. A good farm of this kind can often be obtained—size to suit purchaser—with house and other improvements all ready for occupation; having been used by the land-burdened farmer as a tenant house. Thus none of the inconveniences of going into a new country are experienced—no clearing, no building, no going ten miles to a postoffice and store. Much land of this class can be bought near Benwood

and Wheeling, or at least within easy shipping distance, and it is admirably adapted to market gardening. This class of produce yields a good return; in many instances better than the return on any other work. The thousands of men employed in the mills and factories of Benwood and Wheeling make an excellent market, and thousands of dollars are yearly brought into our county in this way. But it is not only in soil that Marshall's wealth is found; but deep down below, where strata of coal, iron ore, clay, limestone and sand are found in abundance. Here are found the riches that add to her great agricultural wealth, manufacturing possibilities almost unlimited. At the Moundsville Coal Company's shaft the Pittsburgh vein of coal six feet in thickness is reached at a depth of 170 feet. The "four-foot" vein is sixty feet above, and coal is found in the county at a height of 1,100 feet above the ocean level.

In any line of manufacturing no place offers better inducements. Cheap fuel, cheap building sites and cheap transportation, because there is plenty of competition. We have the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, which zigzags across the county from southeast to northwest, and the Ohio River Railroad, which follows the meanderings of the Ohio River along its entire western side. Then we have the Ohio River. The supply of clay is abundant, and a superior quality of brick is made here. The strata of clay for making the celebrated paving blocks are exceedingly rich and that business will undoubtedly be one of the leading industries of Marshall County at no very distant day. Sand of a good quality is also abundant here.

With all these resources Marshall County is bound to become one of the foremost localities in the State. Moundsville will in a few years be a large manufacturing city. Capital is just finding what a good place for investment she is. Her coal, clay, sand and building stone are mines of wealth that have lain untouched for years, but the turn has been called and since her resources have been advertised floods of inquiries pour in on every mail, while capitalists and manufacturers are wending their way to Moundsville to share in the great wealth which nature has stored here with lavish hand. Marshall County is well adapted to stock raising, and much has been done lately to improve the stock by the introduction of new and better breeds. The change is already noticeable and in a few years Marshall's stock will rank with that of any county in the State. The State penitentiary is located at Moundsville.

Persons seeking a home are invited to come to Marshall County and cast their lot. The Moundsville Campmeeting Association own a beautiful grove near Moundsville, where two hundred cottages have been erected.

During the Summer a number of people from Wheeling and other points take up their residence here.

#### MINERAL COUNTY.

Keyser, county seat; formed February 1, 1866, from Hampshire County; named for its mineral resources; area, 370 square miles; population, 12,085; assessed value of real and personal property, \$3,504,930; county tax on \$100 valuation, 35 cents.

Mineral County is mountainous with long valleys along the streams. The soil along the broad bottoms is extremely fertile, and brings fine grass and crops. The soil is well adapted to farming, grazing and fruit growing. The Baltimore & Ohio runs through the northern end of the county. The Piedmont & Cumberland, operated by the West Virginia Central, runs from Piedmont to Cumberland, where it connects with the Pennsylvania Central. The West Virginia Central & Pittsburgh connects with the Piedmont & Cumberland near Piedmont, and runs thence to Elkins, in Randolph County. The North Branch of the Potomac River is utilized for floating lumber and logs.

There are sixty-five schools in the county, with seventy-five teachers, with an attendance of about 2,000 pupils. There are three banks, Bank of Piedmont, Bank of Keyser and First National Bank of Keyser, each having a capital of \$50,000. Railroads constructed in the county have very materially increased the price of lands, and projected lines have enhanced values about fifteen per cent. The county is willing to subscribe to any new railroad line that means business. Private subscriptions would also be forthcoming. Coal abounds in the county in almost inexhaustible quantity in veins from three to fourteen feet in thickness. The quality is the best in the world for steam and smithing purposes. Coal mining is carried on by the Elk Garden mines, operated by the West Virginia Central & Pittsburgh Railroad; Atlantic & Georges Creek, Big Vein, and Virginia Coal Companies. Coke-making has not been developed to any great extent as yet, but it can be manufactured profitably. Iron ore is found in the county. A good vein extending from Keyser to Grant's Cabin gives a good yield. Knobby Mountain contains a good supply of limestone.

The county has a good supply of timber. The forests contain white oak, chestnut oak, poplar, ash, yellow pine, sugar maple, hickory, beech, locust and walnut. There are eight grist mills in the county, an extensive establishment being located at Keyser. There are good openings for machine, furniture and woolen factories, and pulp and paper mills. Machinists, stone

masons and bricklayers can do well in this county. Clay of superior quality is found throughout the county especially adapted to brick and tile making. Some brick are manufactured at Keyser.

#### RITCHIE COUNTY.

Harrisville, county seat; formed February 18, 1844, from Harrison, Lewis and Wood; named for Thomas Ritchie; area, 512 square miles; population, 16,621; assessed value of real and personal property, \$2,478,458; county tax on \$100 valuation, 45 cents.

Ritchie County ranks with the best in the State. The soil is fertile and well adapted to general farming purposes. The soil on the hills is red clay, excellent for wheat, grass and fruit. The bottom land has a very fertile black loam soil, suitable for grass, corn, small grain and vegetables. The Parkersburg Branch of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad runs through the county from east to west, a distance of nearly thirty miles, furnishing excellent facilities for marketing the products. In addition to this there is the Pennsboro & Harrisville Railroad, extending from Pennsboro, a station on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, to Harrisville, the county seat, a distance of eight and a half miles. There are three telephone lines running from Harrisville to different points on the Baltimore & Ohio road, affording ample means of communication with the county seat. Several large streams of water course their way through the county. Most prominent among them are the North and South forks of Hughes River, and their tributaries, which are used for rafting lumber.

There are three newspapers in the county, published at the county seat—Ritchie Gazette, Review and Reveille. This is a great grazing county, and sheep, cattle and horse breeding is pretty extensively engaged in. There are small veins of coal all over the county, but it is only found of sufficient thickness in a few localities. Iron ore is found in small quantity. An excellent quality of fire clay is found. The timber of the county is splendid. It is estimated that one-third of the county is still in timber, consisting of pine, walnut, sugar, beech, birch, maple, chestnut, oak and poplar. Timber cutting is extensively engaged in.

There are about twenty grist mills distributed throughout the county. There are twenty steam saw mills and a number propelled by water power. There are four tanneries in the county. On Bone Creek, about one mile below Auburn, is found a strata of American marble or granite, which, so far as it has been tested, seems to be of a very superior quality. Its color

is brown, beautifully clouded with gray, dark and bright colors of many shades, and will admit of a very high state of polish, being very smooth and without grit, is about five feet thick, and shows along the base of the hill for about 300 feet.

#### DODDRIDGE COUNTY.

West Union, county seat; formed February 4, 1845, from Harrison, Ritchie and Lewis; named for Philip Doddridge, M. C.; area, 475 square miles; population, 12,183; assessed value of real and personal property, \$2,078,632; county tax on \$100 valuation, 25 cents.

The geographical location of this county renders it one of the most desirable in the State. Lying, as it does, on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, the facilities for marketing products are good. Being traversed by three large waterways, there is necessarily a large quantity of alluvial land in the valleys, which is of the richest quality for farming purposes. The hill and plateau lands are of clay loam, and of the richest character, growing all the cereals, etc., to perfection, as well as being the finest soil in the world for blue grass. The plentiful supply of water and this natural adaptation to blue grass renders the county unexcelled for grazing purposes, especially sheep grazing. Doddridge County also contains some of the finest timber lands in the world, growing oak, walnut, ash, hickory, poplar, etc. A great deal of the land is held in large tracts and still awaits the woodsman's ax to rouse its sleeping energies.

The lumbering business is quite extensive, as is also the raising of cattle and sheep. Many of the cattle are exported to eastern markets. At the county seat are five large general stores doing a business of from \$15,000 to \$40,000 each per year; also a large wholesale grocery and produce store. The public buildings in the county are new and commodious. A \$10,000 school house is at the county seat. The roads are well graded and will compare favorably with those of other and older counties. There are ninety school houses in the county and thirty-two churches. The settler in any portion of the county finds himself within easy walking distance of good schools, and at no great distance from a church.

Coal is found in various parts of the county, but in small veins from two to three feet in thickness. Limestone is abundant in almost all parts of the county; there is also a fine vein of iron ore, now being used for roof painting. Building stone is plentiful. Quantities of oil and gas underlie the greater portion of the county and want only the probing of the drill to

send it skyward. New industries are needed and will be heartily welcomed. There is also room for two or three hundred more farmers and stock breeders to develop the hillsides and valleys. The county has two excellent newspapers. Railroads and waterways divide Doddridge County equally. Since the great thoroughfare was constructed in 1856, the "iron horse" carries nearly fifty different native productions to the seaboard, and half as many more westward. The principal streams of the county are Middle Island Creek, South Fork and Middle Fork of Hughes River, McElroy Creek and their tributaries.

Middle Island Creek, the most crooked creek in the valley, is formed by the flowing together of two streams, Meathouse and Buckeye Fork, at Smithton, in this county, thence winding its way among the farms which permeate its banks, flows past the county seat, enlarged by various smaller streamlets, and finally pours a vast volume of water into Tyler County, where it leisurely rolls into the Ohio River at St. Mary's. The Northwestern turnpike passes through the county from east to west and about divides the county equally. The Sistersville and Weston turnpike, the Harrisville and Salem turnpike, and the Shinnston and Sistersville turnpike all pass through the county. Besides these leading thoroughfares, there are roads up and down each creek and streamlet and crossing the hills from one tributary to another.

The district of McClellan has voted to subscribe \$10,000 to the capital stock of any company that would build a road commencing at some point on the Ohio River, thence by way of Middlebourne, and up McElroy Creek by way of Center Point and intersect the West Virginia & Pittsburgh road at or near Lumber Point, in Harrison County. About one-half of the land in Doddridge County is unimproved. Oil is being developed in great quantities in Doddridge County.

#### BARBOUR COUNTY.

Philippi, county seat; formed March 3, 1843, from Harrison, Lewis and Randolph; named for Governor Philip B. Barbour; area, 395 square miles; population, 12,702; assessed valuation of real and personal property, \$2,108,485; county tax on \$100 valuation, 60 cents.

A glance at the map of West Virginia will show that this is one of the interior counties of the State, that its outlines are regular and the distance from its northern to its southern extremity but little less than the distance from the eastern to the western extremity. The general character of the county is undulating or hilly as the base of Laurel Mountain on the east is

approached. The Tygart's Valley River is the principal stream, traversing the county from north to south. The general character of the soil is that of fertility, no considerable portion of any part of the county except the steep slope of the base of the Laurel Mountain being unproductive. Undoubtedly the timber, coal and iron interests of the county were fully developed, constitute the chief sources of wealth, though it is thoroughly adapted to the cultivation of the cereals and to the grazing of cattle and sheep—the grass lands in many parts of the county being equal to the lands of any portions of the State.

Of timber, the best quality of white oak, poplar, walnut, hickory, chestnut, sugar, maple and ash, exists in abundance, particularly the first three. The average diameter of the first two being at least three feet, with trunks twenty to forty feet in height—often without limbs. There are a number of saw mills in the county. Many persons are engaged in timber cutting. Coal is found in inexhaustible quantities. Iron ore is found in the county. At Valley Furnace, in Cove district, about ten miles from Grafton, on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and six miles east on the Grafton & Greenbrier Railroad, is an old iron furnace, after which the place was named. Pig iron was made there from about 1848 up to 1854, when it went out of blast, because of the great cost of transportation, fifty miles to the Monongahela River. The Grafton & Greenbrier Railroad, forty-two miles long, begins at Grafton, on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and traverses south along the east bank of the Tygart's Valley River to Belington. It passes Philippi, twenty-four miles from Grafton, and does a large business in freights on timber and lumber. Net monthly earnings about \$1,500. The West Virginia Central road extends from Elkins to Belington.

The rivers and creeks are used for grinding and floating logs to Grafton, Taylor County. At Moats' Falls, on the Tygart's Valley River, the splendid falls there, eight miles north of Philippi, affords abundant water power. The turnpikes and roads are as follows: Beverly and Fairmont, Morgantown and Staunton, Gnatty Creek and West Union turnpikes. Also indifferent but numerous county roads. Limestone is found in abundance, the stratum being eighty to one hundred feet thick at Valley Furnace. Fire clay is found in large quantities near Philippi. The Philippi Mining and Manufacturing Company operates in connection with its large steam-roller process grist mill a furniture shop and planing mill. There are thirteen grist mills, three tanneries, one pottery, six stone quarries and six firms engaged in coal mining. The railroad built in this county, and the one projected, have increased or made active the price of timber lands.



Many sheep are raised, displacing cattle to some extent. Parts of the county are particularly adapted to sheep raising. There is one bank, Tygart's Valley Bank at Philippi. Capital stock paid in \$35,000. There are 100 schools with the same number of teachers, having an attendance of 5,000 pupils. There are three newspapers published at the county seat. There are about thirty churches in the county representing the Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, United Brethren, Dunkard and Catholic denominations. All kind of labor is needed in the county, particularly thrifty, industrious husbandmen or men who can aid in developing the coal, timber and iron wealth. The people as a whole are steady, frugal and honest. To all such and to all good citizens of any land or clime we will give a cordial welcome.

#### TUCKER COUNTY.

Parsons, county seat; formed March 7, 1856, from Randolph County; named for St. George Tucker; area, 500 square miles; population, 6,450; assessed value of real and personal property, \$748,211; county tax on \$100 valuation, 95 cents.

Few counties are richer in material resources than Tucker, and its favorable location justifies the prediction that it will be the scene of great activity in the future. There are fifty churches in the county, representing ten denominations. There are over fifty schools, same number of teachers and about 1,000 pupils. Cheat River passes through the county from south to north, near the center of the county. This river heretofore has been the outlet for the immense quantities of timber that have been taken out of the county.

The principal industry of the county has been lumbering, from which good returns have been received by the careful, energetic lumbermen. The general surface of the county is undulating, and along the water courses in places much broken and precipitous, but fully three-fourths of the county is admirably adapted to grazing and general farming. The county is adapted to sheep raising. As fine cattle as go to the eastern market are fattened in this section. The forests of the county are very extensive, containing an abundance of spruce, hemlock, poplar, cucumber, ash and large quantities of hickory, cherry, etc. About one-half the county is underlaid with coal of magnificent quality. Two mines are now in operation at Thomas, on the West Virginia Central, operated by H. G. Davis & Bro. Coke-making is carried on at the same place by the same firm. The West Virginia Central & Pittsburgh Railroad is the only railroad in the county.

## UPSHUR COUNTY.

Buckhannon, county seat; formed March 26, 1851, from Randolph, Barbour and Lewis; named for Judge A. P. Upshur; area, 350 square miles; population, 12,714; assessed value of real and personal property, \$3,033,887; county tax on \$100 valuation, 25 cents.

Upshur County probably affords as much encouragement to newcomers or persons seeking a home as any county in the State. She is located centrally and has an average altitude of about 1,500 feet. Her Winters are less damp and chilly than some other counties differently situated. For temperance and morality we are unexcelled and our educational advantages are unexcelled. While there has been, owing to these conditions, a rise in real estate, yet we believe money can hardly be invested that will bring as good a return. With her surroundings and advantages she must grow. The soil is sandy, clay and loam. The principal industries of the people are farming, stock raising and lumbering. The soil is especially adapted to grazing and farming. Fruits of all kinds do well.

Three newspapers are published at the county seat, the Buckhannon Delta and Banner, and West Virginia Christian Advocate. There is one banking institution, the Buckhannon Bank, which has a capital of \$50,000. The Buckhannon Improvement Company offers great inducements to manufacturers. The town is near the geographical center of the State and has a rich region to draw from. A large tract of land has been laid off to new streets, avenues and manufacturing sites. Free sites are offered to new enterprises. There are openings for foundry and machine shops, creameries and cheese factories, tanneries, etc. Buckhannon is destined to become the largest inland city in the State, and by reason of its location is likely in the near future to be the State Capital. There is one existing railroad in the county, the West Virginia & Pittsburgh. It is probable that the West Virginia Central will come to Buckhannon. The waterways are the Buckhannon River and the Middle Fork of Tygart's Valley River. The former runs north through the entire length of the county, and the latter forms the eastern boundary.

The county is peculiarly adapted to sheep, cattle and horse breeding. Sheep breeding is very remunerative, and with proper care and improved stock farmers can double the capital invested in twelve months. Horses do well, and a large number is shipped every year to Pennsylvania and other sections. The cattle raised in Upshur County command fancy prices in the market. The highest price of improved farm lands is \$60; lowest \$10;

average \$12 to \$15. Unimproved farm land fit for farming and grazing brings from \$6 to \$15, selling as low as \$5. About one-half of the county is cleared. The lands are advancing in price. Coal is found in abundance in veins from five to ten feet in thickness. There are mines in operation near Buckhannon, engaged entirely in supplying the local demand. Iron ore is found, but has not been developed in paying quantities. Limestone is found in the northeastern and southwestern portions of the county. Fire clay has been developed in a few localities in paying quantities.

#### HAMPSHIRE COUNTY.

Romney, county seat; formed November, 1753, from Augusta and Frederick; named for Hampshire, in England; area, 550 square miles; population, 11,419; assessed value of real and personal property, \$2,951,625; county tax on \$100 valuation, 25 cents.

Hampshire County is composed of mountains, rolling hills and bottom lands, in the proportion of two-fifths mountains, two-fifths hills and one-fifth bottom land. The soil in the valleys is loam and very fertile. The uplands are limestone, red slate, clay and blue slate, adapted to small grain, grass and fruit. The only existing railroad is the South Branch road, which runs from Green Springs, a station on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, up the Green Spring and South Branch Valleys to Romney, the county seat, a distance of sixteen miles. The waterways are the South Branch, North and Capon Rivers, all of which empty into the Potomac River, which skirts the county on the north. The Northwestern turnpike runs through the county, besides numerous good county roads. The celebrated Capon Mineral Springs are found in this county, and as a summer resort are very popular. The county also has a number of sulphur, alum and iron springs.

The principal industries of the people are farming and grazing. The county is admirably adapted to sheep, cattle and horse breeding, especially sheep. The forests contain some of all the varieties of hardwood and pine, white and chestnut oaks. There are five tanneries in the county, one large steam establishment at Romney, another at Capon Bridge, and three smaller ones. There are three small woolen mills located in different parts of the county, and thirty small saw mills. A distillery is located at Yellow Springs. The market value of farm land is \$60 per acre; lowest \$5; average \$15. Unimproved farm land, fit for farming or grazing, sells as low as 50 cents and \$1 per acre; average \$1.50 to \$2; highest \$8 and \$10. About one-third of the land is cleared. The uncleared lands average \$1.50 to \$2 per acre.

Iron ore is found all over the county. Magnetic ore is indicated through a section some ten miles long. Large quantities of brown hematite ore exist. This ore is believed to be in immense quantity. The indications are that a whole mountain is composed mainly of it. A large vein of red hematite ore is also found within ten miles of the railroad. Fire and potters' clay is found in the county. There are openings for lumber and iron-mining industries and the development of minerals. New people are wanted, and will be cordially received by the residents.

#### HARDY COUNTY.

Moorefield, county seat; formed October, 1785, from Hampshire County; named for Samuel Hardy, M. C.; area, 400 square miles; population, 7,567; assessed value of real and personal property, \$2,846,884; county tax on \$100 valuation, 37 1-2 cents.

The soil, crops and value of land of Hardy County are the same as Hampshire. The deposits of iron ore, however, are larger than those of Hampshire. There is an abundance of limestone for building and agricultural purposes, and sandstone. There is an abundance of fine timber in the extensive forests. There are a great number of mineral, alum, sulphur and chalybeate springs in the county, the sulphur considered equal to those of the celebrated White Sulphur of Greenbrier County. The South Branch and Capon Rivers run through the county and are utilized for floating timber and logs; both streams are navigable for batteaux. A large amount of fine cattle is raised in this county, the land being particularly suited to grazing. Horse feeding is a leading industry, one of the largest and finest stock farms in the county being located near Moorefield, where fine race horses are bred. A large part of the county lies in the beautiful South Branch Valley. There are about sixty-four schools with a like number of teachers, and 1,800 pupils. The county is well supplied with churches of the various denominations.

#### MORGAN COUNTY.

Berkeley Springs, county seat; formed February 9, 1820, from Hampshire and Berkeley; named for General Samuel Morgan; area, 230 square miles; population, 6,744; assessed value of real and personal property, \$1,240,316; county tax on \$100 valuation, 40 cents.

While a great portion of the surface of Morgan County is mountainous and rocky, there is fine bottom land along the Great Cacapon and Sleepy Creek. The soil is loam or sandy. The crops are wheat, corn, oats, rye,

buckwheat, tobacco and potatoes. Over one-third of the land is cleared. Improved farm land brings \$40 to \$60 per acre, some selling much lower. Unimproved land, suitable for farming or grazing, is held at \$3 and \$5 per acre. The price of uncleared land, which is now very low, is advancing owing to projected railroads. The forests contain white oak, hickory, poplar, pine, red and chestnut oak of immense growth, walnut, ash and cherry, which is worked into cross-ties, shingles, staves, hoop-poles, tanbark and sawed lumber. There is not much timber cutting, and several portable steam sawmills do sawing in localities when needed. There are two large tanneries, one located at Paw Paw and the other at Berkeley Springs.

Iron ore is found in abundance, and some coal (anthracite) but not yet discovered in paying quantities. Large deposits of white sand, suitable for glass making and building purposes, are found on Sandy Ridge, said to be the best in the world. This part of the State offers a fine field for the immigrant. For sheep, cattle and horse breeding, with the proper care bestowed, there is no better county in the State for such purposes. There are openings for milling, spoke, shoo and glass factories, and an inviting field presents itself to mechanics of all kinds. The waterways of the Potomac and Cacapon Rivers furnish an excellent water power. There are a number of churches of twelve denominations and good schools. The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad affords a means of marketing the products of the county. A branch of the road to Berkeley Springs has been constructed. There are numerous county roads in fairly good condition. One excellent graded road runs through the center of the county. Berkeley Springs is a well-patronized summer resort.

#### RANDOLPH COUNTY.

Beverly, county seat; formed October, 1786, from Harrison County; named from Edmund Randolph; area, 1,175 square miles; population, 11,633; assessed value of real and personal property, \$1,642,097; county tax on \$100 valuation, 65 cents.

Randolph County is the largest and perhaps the most varied in its soil, productions, climate, minerals, timber and topography of any county in the State. It is drained by the several forks of Cheat River, the Valley River, Middle Fork, Buckhannon, Elk and Gauley Rivers. Along the Cheat waters the soil is sandy loam and the timber pine, cherry, beech and birch, while the lands on the ridges or mountains between these streams, except the faces of the mountains divided by the Shavers Fork, are rich loam,

much of it limestone, covered with beech, sugar, ash, cherry, poplar, with spruce patches. These lands are among the best grazing lands anywhere. The surface is not steep nor rocky, generally, but slopes gently, and runs into long flats and low ridges. The region known as Dry Fork district has 500 or 600 square miles, and is destined to be a most important section of the county and State on account of its timber, soil and climate, the average altitude being about 3,000 feet. The Tygart's Valley River drains the central belt of the county, and is noted for the beauty of its scenery and the fertility of its soil. The valley is about forty miles long, and will average one mile in width. The Cheat Mountain, with its foot hills, lies along its eastern horizon, while the Rich Mountain, with its foot hills, lies along the western, giving in one view mountain, hill and vale. The valley has been settled since the year 1754, and many of the same families who came here before the Revolution, and on up to the beginning of the present century, still live here, the land having descended from father to son in some instances for three generations.

The head of this valley is known as the Mingo Flats, and is a very fine blue grass region, the surface being a rolling, limestone formation. The western and southwestern half of the county is covered with poplar, cherry, beech, sugar, ash, oak, etc., underlaid in many parts with coal, in some instances the thickest veins in the State. The Roaring Creek region of this section is famous for the big vein of coal, showing at a number of points over twenty feet in thickness.

There are a number of iron ore ledges and veins found in several sections of the county, but none have been thoroughly tested. Copper is said to exist in one locality. Ocher is found in several places of good quality. Fire clay is also found in paying quantities. Salt wells have been bored and good brine found. The waters of the whole county are pure and clear as crystal. The West Virginia Central & Pittsburgh Railroad is built and operated to the City of Beverly. The population is intelligent, moral and fairly industrious. Churches of nearly all creeds and good schools are located in every neighborhood. Taxation is low. There is not a dollar of debt. The county affairs are in the hands of careful men who are progressive but not extravagant. The Cheat Mountain Sportsman Association control and occupy the largest game preserve east of the Mississippi. There are 200 members, from all parts of the Union, most of them from Pittsburgh. Fine clubhouses, etc., twenty-five miles from railroad, over good turnpike road, at a point on Cheat River 3,500 feet above tide. Strangers who seek homes and capital seeking investment are welcomed.

Land is low compared with prices in Pennsylvania and Maryland. With the natural advantages and the railroads actually built and building, besides the many projected roads, some of which will necessarily be built, the great County of Randolph with her State-like area, varied resources, splendid climate, and more than a century of history, is bound to be a center of large population and varied interests of great commercial importance.

#### BRAXTON COUNTY.

Sutton, county seat; formed January 15, 1836, from Lewis, Kanawha and Nicholas; named for Carter Braxton; area, 565 square miles; population, 13,928; assessed value of real and personal property, \$1,728,716; county tax on \$100 valuation, 71 2-3 cents.

Braxton County is the central county of the State. Sutton, the county seat, is situated near the geographical center of the county. There are 110 schools, which employ 114 teachers, and thirty churches, representing the Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian denominations. The north, north-eastern and western portions of the county are hilly and the southwestern mountainous. The soil is well adapted for the production of all the rich grasses. It is a black loam and a red clay. A light stratum of limestone is found near the surface in most sections of the county. Wheat, corn and other cereals are grown with magnificent results when fairly cultivated. No county in the State can show better results, both in quantity and quality, in the production of corn and wheat per acre, than can be shown in Braxton.

Stock farming is profitably carried on in this county. Cattle and sheep find abundant pasturage from April to December, often till January, and not unfrequently they are left to shift for themselves through the whole Winter, coming out of the Winter in good condition, if the Fall is favorable for grass and snow light. When the land is cleared and wild grasses subdued the blue grass, in most localities, naturally appears. Timothy and clover are the seeds sown; but they are crowded out in four or five years by the more vigorous blue grass. Many farmers prefer not to cultivate their lands that are well set in grasses, believing it to be more profitable to graze them than to plow. The market prices of improved land range from \$50 per acre for the best; average \$15; lowest \$5. Of timber we have all varieties common to our latitude and altitude, but the different kinds of oak and poplar of the finest quality predominate. No country can furnish superior white oak, both in quantity and quality of the finished product. The magnificent flowing poplar is found in abundance in our better class of soil, surpassing all our forest trees in magnitude, and is in great demand for lum-

ber. We have also hickory, ash, sugar, maple and minor varieties of timber in sufficient supply. The highest price asked for timber and unimproved lands is \$10; average \$5; lowest \$3.

It is generally believed that the northwestern half of this county is on the great oil belt, which extends across the State. In that portion of the county are found gas springs and oil springs which come bubbling up from the bottom of the streams. By actual test it is found that the gas when ignited will burn for several minutes. Coal is found in all parts of the county—bituminous, splint, peacock and cannel—in veins from two feet to five feet in thickness. The coal makes fine coke. Black band, kidney, red and gray hematite iron ores are found in workable quantities. During the seventies there was a blast furnace operated, but owing to the lack of transportation facilities was soon closed down. A fine quality of fire clay is found in veins three to ten feet thick.

The northern portion of the county is drained by the Little Kanawha River, which has its source in Upshur County. In its course through Braxton it receives many large creeks; among the largest are Salt Lick Creek and Oil Creek, Cedar Creek and Steer Creek. The central and southern portions are drained by the Elk River, by far the most beautiful river in the State, if not on the continent. This river rises in Pocahontas County, wends its way through Webster and enters Braxton, thence the full length of the county, through Clay County, into Kanawha, until it mingles its transparent waters with the Great Kanawha at the City of Charleston. Holly River flows into Elk, fifteen miles above Sutton, and Big Brick, twenty miles below. At present the only railroad in the county is the West Virginia & Pittsburgh Railroad, from Weston to Sutton. A branch line from a point six miles west of Sutton, to the headwaters of Gauley River, in Webster County, has been built. Other lines of railroads are projected through the county, viz.: The West Virginia Central from its present terminus in Randolph County via Sutton, down Elk River to Charleston, and the Elk River Railroad from Charleston to Sutton.

The manufacturing of lumber is one of the chief industries of the county. Saw mills are numbered by the score and employ large forces of men. In the Summer of 1889 the Elk Island Boom Company built a boom on Elk River at Sutton, at a cost of \$25,000, which is of incalculable benefit to the lumbermen of Upper Elk. At the boom is located the large saw mill of Pardee, Curtin & Co., with a capacity of 80,000 feet per day. Sutton, situated as she is, in Elk River Valley, in the very midst of a section of the State which cannot be surpassed for diversified natural wealth anywhere within her borders, will ere long develop into quite a manufacturing town. Enterprises



are being put on their feet, and another year will find Sutton a town of no small importance. It affords an opening for large tanneries, pulp mills and factories for the manufacture of both hard and soft wood. The raw materials are here, or within easy distance. A large flouring mill is wanted—a small one would not supply the demand for flour. Sutton will necessarily be the source of supply for the lumber region that the extension of the West Virginia & Pittsburgh Railroad into Webster County will open up and a flouring mill with a sufficient capacity could hold the market for flour and other supplies against outside competition.

#### GILMER COUNTY.

Glenville, county seat; formed February 3, 1845, from Lewis and Kanawha; named for Governor Thomas Walker Gilmer; area, 330 square miles; population, 9,746; assessed value of real and personal property, \$1,047,744; county tax on \$100 valuation, 90 cents.

Gilmer County is one of the most progressive in the State. There are fifty churches in the county, eighty public schools, employing eighty-one teachers; also a State Normal school at Glenville, with an excellent faculty, which affords splendid opportunities to the young ladies and gentlemen of Central West Virginia for a higher education, and also for a thorough training in the theory and practice of teaching. There are two papers in the county, the Signal and Banner, both published at Glenville. There are no existing railways. The Little Kanawha River, running through the center of the county, furnishes transportation for timber and coal. It is locked and dammed to within thirty-five miles of Glenville. The county is well watered by several streams of considerable size, running almost entirely through it.

Three turnpike roads run through the county, and good county roads connect every community of the county with these three great thoroughfares. The streams of the county are spanned at all important crossings by good iron bridges. The soil is red clay and black loam, which is peculiarly adapted to wheat, oats, rye, corn and all kinds of fruits; it is also very fine for grazing purposes, as blue grass grows luxuriously. There is no better county in the State for raising cattle, sheep and horses. The principal industries of the people are farming, stock raising and lumbering. Coal is found in about one-half of the county in veins ranging from five to ten feet in thickness, the greater part of which is excellent coking coal. There is some iron ore, but no development thereof has been made. There is some limestone, and fire clay is plentiful, and of a superior quality. The timber

embraces all kinds of hard woods, and poplar, linn and other soft woods. There are several steam saw mills in the county, all doing a thriving business. Ten grist mills are run by steam and five by water power, while at Glenville is located a large flouring mill using the roller process, which furnishes flour for this and some of the adjacent counties. Oil and gas exist in this county. Building stone is plentiful and of excellent quality. The tanneries, one at Glenville and one at Troy, are operated for home consumption only. About one-fourth of the land of the county is improved. The market value of the improved is from \$8 to \$15 per acre, averaging about \$9 per acre, and some selling as low as \$5 or \$6 per acre. Unimproved land suitable for farmers and grazers ranges from \$3 to \$6 per acre. Some sells, however, as low as \$2 per acre, and the average price of uncleared land is \$2.50 per acre. The price of land is increasing on account of prospective railroads and oil developments. New people and capital are invited.

#### GRANT COUNTY.

Petersburg, county seat; formed February 14, 1866, from Hardy County; named for General U. S. Grant; area, 490 square miles; population, 6,802; assessed value of real and personal property, \$2,153,204; county tax on \$100 valuation, 60 cents.

Grant County lies, for the greater part, in that section of West Virginia where no railroads have yet been built, though there have been some projected and surveyed. It has been partly developed by the five miles of the West Virginia Central Railroad which now traverses it, and no section of the State exceeds that part of Grant in prosperity. There are at present sixty schools in the county, with 2,100 pupils, and forty churches. The principal waterways are the South Branch of the Potomac, through the southeastern part of the county, and the North Branch of the same river, which skirts the western border. In high water both are used for rafting, and can be made available for that purpose. In addition to these transportation facilities are excellent public roads, well graded and kept in good condition. Nearly one-half of the area of the county is underlaid with veins of coal from two and a-half to eleven feet thick, and of good quality. An immense deposit of brown hematite iron ore runs in workable veins from north to south through the whole county, in close proximity to excellent limestone, which the proposed railroad will make available. Fire clay in paying quantities is also found. There are three different formations of limestone, the blue limestone being plentiful. Good workable sandstone for

building purposes exists all through the county—also what is known as bastard limestone.

The greater part of the county being yet a forest, there is an abundance of timber of all kinds. Walnut is scarce, but cherry, ash, poplar, beech, all varieties of oak and pine and maple are plentiful. The lumber industry, especially along the line of the West Virginia Central road, is prosperous. The soil along the river and creek bottoms is sandy loam; clay, slate and limestone on the uplands and the Allegheny Mountains. With good tillage and occasional fertilizing very satisfactory crops are obtained, for which there is already a good home market. Fruit raising and dairy farming give good results. Good farming in this county is sure of a good return every season. Drougths are very rare. Much attention has been lately given to the improvement of cattle, horses and sheep. The county and climate is splendidly adapted to grazing. The highest price for improved land is \$100 per acre; the lowest \$5; average \$20. Highest price for unimproved land \$10; lowest 50 cents; average \$6. Two-thirds of the county is unimproved, and the field is an inviting one for settlers.

The established industries are an extensive tannery, many lumber establishments and coal mines on the railroad, besides a number of smaller industries in wool, leather and flour in the county.

On account of the variety and great quantity of timber, the openings for new enterprises such as wood-working establishments, tanneries, etc., are splendid. With the building of the new railroad the iron deposits will be available and blast furnaces, iron works, etc., can be established. Pig iron can be manufactured here at the minimum cost. The abundance of fruit will encourage the establishment of the canning industry. The people of the county will encourage the building of railroads by voting subscriptions or subsidies. The only newspaper is the South Branch Gazette.

#### KANAWHA COUNTY.

Charleston (the State Capital), county seat; formed November 14, 1788, from Greenbrier and Montgomery; named for the river—Indian name for "River of the Woods;" area, 825 square miles; population, 42,756; assessed value of real and personal property, \$7,169,812; county tax on \$100 valuation, 85 cents.

Kanawha County is one of the most important in the State as well as one of the most prosperous. There are about fifty churches in the county, representing the Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Catholic, Episcopal and Hebrew denominations. There are good public schools and several news-

papers. The existing railroads are the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad, which traverses the entire coal field, giving access to tide water at Newport News. The Kanawha & Ohio road, with its connections to Toledo and Chicago, and crossing every trunk line between New York and the West, now enters the lower and middle Kanawha coal field, the coke belt. The other existing roads are the Winnifrede, Paint Creek, Cabin Creek and Kanawha & Coal River Railroads. There are a number of lateral roads running to coal mines, from five to ten miles long. Two roads are projected from the East. The Baltimore, Buckhannon & Charleston road, under the wing of the Baltimore & Ohio, proposes coming down the Elk River. Another projected road is the West Virginia Central which comes down the Gauley River to Charleston. The projected extension of the Norfolk & Western passes through the county.

The Kanawha River is the principal stream in the county. The other rivers are the Elk, New, Gauley, Coal and Pocatalico. The Elk River is navigable for steamers for about twenty miles. The other streams are used for floating logs. The Kanawha is navigable for steamers to Charleston during a portion of the year. In the upper, middle and lower coal measures of the Kanawha coal field, there are exposed and operated, or capable of being operated, twelve seams containing superior cannel, splint, gas, steam and coking coal. There are about forty-five collieries on the Kanawha and New Rivers. The coal seams vary in thickness from four feet to eight and ten feet. Black band, red and brown hematite iron ores are found in the county. At Stand Rock run a deposit has been well opened. The ore is a nodular form of oxide, having sometimes very rich ocher and sometimes mud in the interior of the lumps, which are so thickly imbedded in soft gray or shale as to make a valuable workable bed. Petroleum is found in many salt wells in small quantities. Natural gas is found in large quantities in salt wells. For nearly one hundred years Kanawha salt has been famous the world over. It commands the highest price in the market for packing.

The soil of the river bottom is very fertile, making excellent farming lands. The back country is hilly and rough, but is good for fruit growing and fair for grazing. The conditions of the land are good for sheep, cattle and horse raising. The wool product of the county is mostly manufactured into yarns and woven goods. The yarns are shipped to Boston. There are a number of grist mills in the county. About four-fifths of the land in the county is uncleared. Charleston is the Capital of the State and the chief city of the Kanawha Valley. It has had a wonderful growth in the past few years, owing to the development of the coal and coke

industry, which have served to quicken other interests. The city is advantageously situated at the confluence of the Elk and Kanawha Rivers, sixty miles from where the Kanawha empties into the Ohio. The city is within fourteen hours of the National Capital, nine hours of Cincinnati, twenty-three hours from New York, seven hours from Wheeling, twenty hours from Philadelphia, twenty-one hours from Chicago, and ten hours from Newport News, tide water. The city is lighted by gas and electric light. It is supplied with the purest water from Elk River by a magnificent water works plant on the Holly direct pressure system. Having cheap coal fuel the city is blessed with a still cheaper one, natural gas, which is found in inexhaustible quantities under and around Charleston.

#### LINCOLN COUNTY.

Hamlin, county seat; formed February 23, 1867, from Cabell, Putnam, Kanawha and Boone; named for President Lincoln; area, 460 square miles; population, 11,246; assessed value of real and personal property, \$1,169,689; county tax on \$100 valuation, 90 cents.

The surface of Lincoln County is hilly. The large majority of the land is uncleared. The soil is very fertile, especially the bottoms along the Guyandotte, Coal and Mud Rivers. Tobacco raising is one of the great industries of the people. The crops best suited to the lands are corn, oats, rye, wheat and buckwheat. All kinds of grasses do well. The county also produces large amounts of ginseng. Land is cheap in this section, and it contains some of the finest timber in the State. The timber is rafted down the streams to the Ohio River. There are several tanneries and a number of grist and saw mills in the county. The county has no railroads at present, but several are contemplated. The resources of the county must necessarily attract new roads. The means of transportation at present is by means of county roads to the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad. There are a number of churches in the county, a good school system and one newspaper.

#### LOGAN COUNTY.

Logan C. H., county seat; formed January 12, 1824, from Giles, Tazewell, Cabell and Logan; named for the Mingo Indian Chief, Logan; area, 675 square miles; population, 11,101; assessed value of real and personal property, \$1,146,703; county tax on \$100 valuation, 40 cents.

The surface of Logan County is broken, the hills in some parts attaining the heights of mountains. The soil is loam, more or less sandy or clayey, yielding grass and grain in abundance. Nearly three-fourths of the land in

the county is uncleared and contains the finest timber in the State, some of the trees growing to an enormous size, especially oak and poplar. The farming land is very fine. The developments of the past few years, the construction of the Norfolk & Western road and its proposed branches have contributed to largely appreciate values of land in this county, and prices are constantly on the rise. The principal streams are the Big Sandy and Guyandotte Rivers. The former stream is the dividing line between West Virginia and Kentucky, and is navigable for steamers several months in the year. The latter is utilized for rafting timber. Salt water is found in some localities. The county is admirably adapted to stock raising. Splint, cannel and ordinary bituminous coal abound in working seams.

There are churches in the county representing the various denominations. The county has good schools. New people are wanted to develop the resources of the county. There are excellent openings in the county for the different branches of the lumbering industry, farming, grazing and coal mining. New people are flocking in and thousands of acres of land have been taken up. This activity has had the effect to appreciate the prices of lands, but thousands of acres of wonderful forest timber and coal lands may be purchased at astonishingly low prices. There is no richer undeveloped region in West Virginia. Capital and settlers are cordially invited.

#### CABELL COUNTY.

Huntington, county seat; formed January 2, 1809, from Kanawha County; named for Governor William H. Cabell; area, 300 square miles; population, 23,595; assessed value of real and personal property, \$4,674,085; county tax on \$100 valuation, 60 cents.

Cabell County lies on the Ohio River and is traversed by the Guyan. Huntington, the metropolis, a thriving city with an estimated population of 12,000, became the county seat in 1888. It is the southern terminus of the Ohio River Railroad, and here the Chesapeake & Ohio and Norfolk & Western reach the river from the East. It has four daily papers and four weeklies. The principal towns besides Huntington are Guyandotte, at the mouth of the Guyan, a considerable lumber-working point. Barboursville, on the Chesapeake & Ohio road, until lately the county seat, Milton, and Central City. The Kimball Smokeless Powder Works have been recently established, and a town has sprung up in the vicinity. At Huntington is located Marshall College, one of the most thriving branches of the State Normal school. The county is located in easy reach of the Ohio River coal fields, and near to the inexhaustible Kanawha coal fields, which are very accessible by the Chesapeake & Ohio road. In the hills are coal veins ten

feet thick. Building stone, sand, clay and other deposits abound. There are banks and thriving building associations. The Ensign Car Works, employing 800 men, are located here; also the Chesapeake & Ohio shops, employing 600 men.

The lumber interest in the county is extensive; one mill has an annual capacity of 5,000,000 feet, and the lumber product is valued at \$500,000 annually. There are three foundries and machine shops, a paint factory with a capacity of 500 gallons daily, and several large cigar factories. There is a considerable jobbing trade, good hotels and fine public buildings, an opera house, etc. Huntington has a fine water works and electric lights, and a good fire department. The soil of the county is very rich, and the accessibility to market makes market gardening profitable. The climate is salubrious and the general health good. Cabell is a growing county, and shows a liberal and progressive spirit. She invites new population. Farmers, gardeners, grazers, lumbermen, potteries, cracker factories, creameries, tanneries, chain works, structural iron works, tank works, bridge works, cotton and woolen factories, works for the manufacture of fine and pressed brick, common red brick, bolts and nuts, saws, files, brass foundries, stove works, wood works, furniture factories, and in short, any kind of manufacturing establishments furnishing employment and contributing to the growth of the community and State are invited and will be liberally dealt with.

#### POCAHONTAS COUNTY.

Huntersville, county seat; formed December 21, 1821, from Bath, Pendleton and Randolph; named for the Indian Princess, Pocahontas; area, 765 square miles; population, 6,814; assessed value of real and personal property, \$1,894,729; county tax on \$100 valuation, 33 1-3 cents.

There is no county in the State for which nature has done more, or man less, than Pocahontas. Owing to her inaccessibility and difficult means of communication with the outside world, so little attention has been paid her in the past that few are familiar with her rich and diversified resources. The greater part by far is covered with primeval forests, almost untouched by human hand. The oak, in all its varieties, predominates. Along the eastern tributaries of the Greenbrier River and scattered over the foot hills of the Allegheny Mountains may be found as fine a variety of white pine as is grown anywhere. This, owing to the ease with which it may be floated, has for some time been finding its way to market, the logs being driven down the Greenbrier River to Ronceverte, where they are manufactured, thence shipped east and north, about 150,000,000 feet of white pine have already been cut along the waters of Deer Creek and Sittlington's Creek.

The soil of Pocahontas County is likewise diversified. In some sections the land is thin and in others rugged, but the greater portion is exceedingly fertile, and there cannot be found in this State, or any other, a locality better adapted to grazing or farming. The cereals are here produced with large yield to the acre, and the conditions are good for fruit culture. Tobacco is grown to advantage in sections of Virginia no better adapted to its culture than Pocahontas. Blue grass is at home here; take away the timber and let in the sunshine and you shortly have a blue grass sod of as luxuriant growth as can be found on the sown fields of Kentucky. Timothy, clover and numerous other choice varieties contest the right of the blue grass to the field; so we find them growing together, each trying to choke out the others and to climb high enough to hide all the rest.

Along the western border of the county, near the head waters of Williams River, are known to exist veins of coal, varying in thickness from two to eighteen feet. By proper test the quality has been ascertained, which proves it to be a coking coal of superior order. In this connection it may also be stated that this is the nearest known coal field to the great iron-producing section of Virginia. There is iron ore in great abundance, which is known to be of an excellent quality. This field lies to the east of the Greenbrier, running from one end of the county to the other.

Springs of sulphur, alum, chalybeate, lithia and other waters of medicinal virtue are plentiful. For some of these we predict future notoriety. Pocahontas, it will be remembered, is one of the few counties in the State untouched by a railroad. There is no section to which the future promises more than this; no place more desirable for a home, or where the capitalist may invest with greater certainty of speedy and profitable returns.

#### FAYETTE COUNTY.

Fayetteville, county scat; formed February 28, 1831, from Logan, Greenbrier, Nicholas and Kanawha; named for General Lafayette; area, 750 square miles; population, 20,542; assessed value of real and personal property, \$2,690,256; county tax on \$100 valuation, 50 cents.

Fayette County is one of the richest counties in resources in the State, and is being rapidly developed. The Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad runs through the center of the county. The Hawk's Nest and Gaulcy River, Mt. Carbon, Fire Creek and Longdale Iron Company's railroads are short branches from the line of the Chesapeake & Ohio road. Projected roads are the extension of the Kanawha & Michigan from Charleston; New River & Greenbrier and the Loup Creek. The Great Kanawha River forms in this



county by the conjunction of the Gauley and New Rivers. It is navigable for about twelve miles in the county for part of the year. The Kanawha furnishes excellent water power, especially at Kanawha Falls, where there is a fall of fourteen feet, with excellent sites for manufactories. The old James River and Kanawha, and the Giles, Fayette and Kanawha turnpikes run through the county. There are also numerous good county roads. There are several good mineral springs in the county, but none have been developed. Fayetteville is one of the coolest Summer resorts in the Allegheny Mountains.

Fire clay is found in the county, one vein being eighteen feet thick. It has not been worked yet, but parties are contemplating doing so, as fire brick is used in building coke ovens. There is some iron ore found, but it has never been developed. There are several factories engaged in the manufacture of staves. The price of lands is advancing on account of the coal and timber they contain, and their adaptability to tobacco-raising. The building of railroads has enhanced the price of lands nearly tenfold, and projected roads, from \$2.50 to \$5 per acre. New people are wanted and they will be cordially received. There are openings for coal-mining and coke-making, tobacco-raising and manufacturing and lumbering. Capitalists cannot find a more inviting field for investment. Coal is certainly king in this county. There are over forty collieries employing over four thousand men. The majority of these coal works manufacture coke. While the quantity or thickness of the seams of this coal does not compare with that in some places in Pennsylvania or the Pocahontas region, its quality has brought it to the front rank in the market. Nearly the whole of this county is underlaid with this coal. In some places there are as many as two, three and even four seams or veins of coal. The workable seams of coal are as follows: Quinnemont, seam three to six feet thick; Fire Creek, three and one-half to four and one-half feet; Nuttallburg, seam three and one-half to four feet; Clarion, seam five feet; Lower Kittanning, seven feet; Upper Kittanning, seam five feet; Lower Freeport, seam five feet; Upper Freeport, seam seven feet.

The Chesapeake & Ohio Railway runs about seventy-five miles through the county, dividing it almost in two equal parts, and while most of the coal lying immediately on this road is being worked, short-line railroads are being built three, four and in some places eight miles back into the very heart of the coal field, where the seams are thicker and consequently the cost of mining less. These short-line railroads have been built at Sewell, Powellton, Hawk's Nest, Fire Creek and other places. Most of the coal

mined is made into coke, which gives employment to a large number of persons. There are now about 2,000 ovens in operation, and more are building. The next great industry of this county, and one that is largely increasing every year, is the production of tobacco. Fayette County raises by far the finest tobacco in the State, and with the exception of two or three counties on the Virginia and North Carolina border, the prices for Fayette tobacco were as high as any that was sold in either the Richmond or Lynchburg markets, the great tobacco marts of the country. Nearly all the farmers are raising this product.

Very little wheat or corn is grown in the county, for the reason that the crop of either an acre of wheat or corn cannot be sold for more than \$10 to \$50, while tobacco will yield from \$150 to \$500 per acre. In addition to the above products, the lumber business in the county is considerable. There are millions of feet of the finest poplar, oak, ash and hemlock. The people are as law-abiding and peaceful as in any county in the United States. There are fifty churches, representing the Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Catholic and Dunkard denominations.

#### MONROE COUNTY.

Union, county seat; formed January 14, 1799, from Greenbrier County; named for President James Monroc; area, 460 square miles; population, 12,429; assessed value of real and personal property, \$3,095,300; county tax on \$100 valuation, 27 1-2 cents.

Monroe, lying south of Greenbrier County, is largely of its character in topography, soil and products. The soil is loam, clay, and calcareous clayey loam, producing excellent farming and grazing lands. Stock raising is extensively engaged in, and a large number of superior grade cattle are exported annually. The soil is also well adapted to tobacco growing. Iron ore, manganese and limestone, for building and agricultural purposes, is found in immense quantities. There is no question that there is a valuable lithographic stone deposit in this county; also marble and granite. There is a great deal of valuable timber in the county, comprising all the varieties found in other counties in the State. The New and Greenbrier Rivers flow through the county. The Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad crosses the northern portion of the county for a short distance. Another road is projected. The county has several turnpikes and other good roads. There are a number of churches of nearly every denomination. There are 115 good schools and a collegiate institute and college school at Alderson. There are two banks, respectively known as the Bank of Union and the Greenbrier Valley Bank.

Each has a capital stock of about \$75,000. Monroe surpasses all other counties of the State in its wonderful wealth of mineral waters, delightful places of summer resorts.

There is a prospect of two more railways being built through the county. The one which will most probably be constructed is to connect the Newport News & Mississippi Valley Railroad at Allegheny Station with a branch of the Norfolk & Western road at or near Parisburg, in Giles County, Virginia. The route of the projected railroad lies down the Valley of Peter's Mountain, along the waters of Indian and Turkey Creeks, passing through that part of the county of Monroe which is rich in the finest ores of iron, in quarries of gray and black marble and lithographic stone, with a suspicion of silver at one or two points. No workable coal exists in Monroe County; timber in abundance, however, is here, pines and hardwood predominating.

About one-half of the county is cleared and farmed or grazed, the unimproved land being the original forest and mainly mountain or ridge land. The highest price for improved land is \$50 per acre and the lowest \$6—the average \$25. The highest price for unimproved land is \$5 and the lowest \$1—the average \$3. There are splendid openings here for new enterprises, such as creameries, wood manufactories, tanneries, manufactories for tanning extract from bark, handle factories, wagon factories, furniture factories, etc., there being an abundance of walnut, ash, sugar, maple, oak, hickory and other hardwoods.

#### CALHOUN COUNTY.

Grantsville, county seat; formed March 5, 1856, from Gilmer County; named for John C. Calhoun; area, 260 square miles; population, 8,155; assessed value of real and personal property, \$871,918; county tax on \$100 valuation, 50 cents.

Calhoun County is in the line of several projected railways, which give fair promise of being constructed in the near future. The Little Kanawha River runs through the county in a northwest direction. The river is navigable certain times of the year as far as Glenville in Gilmer County. The principal industries are farming, grazing, and lumbering. Timber is floated down the Little Kanawha. The forests of this county contain an excellent variety of woods, and a number of persons are employed in cutting timber. The soils are sandy and clayey loam. The land is admirably adapted to grazing and a large amount of fine stock is exported annually. Limestone for building and agricultural purposes abounds; also good building sandstone. Good coal is found in the county. The water power of the numerous

streams is good. There are many good county roads. There are about twenty churches in the county. There are about sixty schools, sixty teachers and 2,500 pupils in the county.

#### WAYNE COUNTY.

Wayne C. H., county seat; formed January 18, 1842, from Cabell County; named for General Anthony Wayne; area, 445 square miles; population, 18,652; assessed value of real and personal property, \$2,485,346; county tax on \$100 valuation, 60 cents.

The surface of this county is hilly, the hills being comparatively low on the Ohio River, and rising higher back in the country. There is a good deal of fine bottom land on the Ohio River (about half a mile wide), and on the other streams and creeks. Two newspapers, the Wayne News and Advance, are published in the county, the former at Wayne C. H., and the latter at Ceredo. The Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad runs along the river border of the county, and the Norfolk & Western is nearing completion. Ceredo and Kenova, referred to elsewhere, are the scenes of great activity at present. The waterways are the Ohio River, which forms the western boundary of the county, the Big Sandy, the dividing line between Kentucky and West Virginia, and the Twelve Pole River, used for floating and rafting timber. The water power is excellent.

Wayne County has abundant supplies of the finest splint, cannel and common bituminous coal, in large seams above the water level. The veins are from six to nineteen feet in thickness. The coal is not mined extensively, being worked almost exclusively for home use. Limestone exists in small quantities. Iron ore is found in workable quantities. A fine quality of fire clay is found in various parts of the county. Yellow ocher also abounds. One of the principal industries is lumbering. By reason of the industrial activity lands are increasing rapidly in value.

#### NICHOLAS COUNTY.

Summersville, county seat; formed January 30, 1818, from Kanawha, Greenbrier and Randolph; named for Wilson Cary Nicholas; area, 720 square miles; population, 9,309; assessed value of real and personal property, \$975,802; county tax on \$100 valuation, 60 cents.

This county is situated a short distance southeast of the center of the State and is traversed by Gauley, Cherry Tree, Cranberry, Meadow and Big Birch Rivers with a number of their largest branches. The county is bisected nearly northeast and southwest by the Weston and Gauley Bridge Turnpike road, running from Weston, in Lewis County, through Braxton and Nicholas, intersecting the James River and Kanawha turnpike at

Gauley Bridge, where the Gauley flows into the New River, which point is known on the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad as Gauley Station, which is thirty miles from Summersville. The soil is generally a rich black loam, with red or yellow clay, sub-soil susceptible of constant and easy improvement under proper cultivation, and will produce fine crops. This section has of late been noted for the perfection which fruit attains in its soil. Apples and peaches are equal if not superior in size and flavor to any grown in the country.

The timber in this county is an abundant growth of the finest oak, poplar (white wood), hickory, chestnut, white oak, linn, basswood, walnut, cherry, maple, sugar, beech, birch, ash, cucumber, locust and holly, all of the best and most valuable kinds, which, having never been culled, the forests still exist in all their primitive majesty. The whole of Nicholas County is underlaid with fine workable veins of cannel, bituminous and splint coal from three to seven feet thick. Rich veins of valuable black band and other iron ores have been discovered and are known to exist in this county. Potter's and fire clays exist here in abundance, and a pottery on a small scale is successfully carried on at Nicholas Court House. About six-eighths of the land in the county is uncleared.

There are thirty-four churches, representing the Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Catholic denominations. There are seventy-two schools in the county and seventy-eight teachers. There are about thirty grist mills in the county, steam mills, cooperage establishments, furniture factories and tanneries. Salt water is found on Birch River. A cordial invitation is extended to the landless and homeless of all localities who desire to be good citizens and add by their own toil to the growing prosperity of the county and section to come and locate.

#### MCDOWELL COUNTY.

Peeryville, county seat; formed February 20, 1858, from Tazewell County; named for James McDowell; area, 680 square miles; population, 7,300; assessed value of real and personal property, \$678,861; county tax on \$100 valuation, 75 cents.

McDowell County, which five years ago was perhaps the most uncultivated county in the State, is now the scene of great activity, and its wealth of resources is being rapidly developed. Few of the counties, if any, when the work is fairly under way, will experience a more rapid or healthful industrial advancement. Most of the land is still in the original forest, but county roads are being made, the Norfolk & Western Railroad is under operation, and the Big Sandy, Tug and Dry Fork Rivers are no longer the

only means of transportation. The famous Flat Top coal and coke region, on the Norfolk & Western road, is the scene of the greatest development work. McDowell County lies west of Mercer, the most southern county in the State, and the Winters are mild. The timber of the county is very fine and is in almost inexhaustible quantities, embracing all the finer hard woods.

A great portion of the county being in the Flat Top coal and coke district, which is considered the most important field in the country outside of Pennsylvania, the possibilities of the future standing of the county, so far as this great industry is concerned, are practically unlimited, and McDowell, from a virgin forest will become one of the greatest industrial centers of West Virginia. Owing to railroad building, and the advertisement its unexcelled mineral and timber resources have received, the price of unimproved lands has advanced rapidly, and as much capital is seeking investments here, the values are still advancing. All classes of industrious and intelligent settlers are wanted, and men with money to develop the county will be cordially welcomed. The soil is very fertile and well adapted for farming and grazing purposes.

#### MASON COUNTY.

Point Pleasant, county seat; formed January 2, 1804, from Kanawha County; named for George Mason; area, 440 square miles; population, 22,863; assessed value of real and personal property, \$5,451,988; county tax on \$100 valuation, 45 cents.

There are thirty counties in West Virginia larger in area than Mason, twenty that are smaller and three that are equal in area. Whilst there are thirty counties larger in area than Mason, there are only three that contain a greater population. Mason County prides herself justly on her fine agricultural and grazing lands. Blue grass springs indigenous from the ground wherever cleared. The writer has assisted in gathering 100 bushels of corn per acre off a forty-acre field, and knows from reliable authority that 125 bushels per acre has been raised on our Ohio River bottom lands. The question is often asked why the assessed valuation of property, real and personal, is so great in this county. The answer is plain. Mason County has a frontage on the Ohio River of nearly sixty miles, and a frontage on the Kanawha River of forty miles, thereby giving the broad and fertile acres known as our river bottom lands. Into either river flow numerous and large creeks that open up the hill country and afford homes to a substantial, happy and prosperous people.

The farmers are branching out largely into the sheep industry. The breeding of fine trotting and running horses is engaging the attention of some of our enterprising farmers. The use of tile draining has demonstrated that an increased fertility can be given bottom lands. The potato is a prodigious and prolific grower in parts of the county. Besides the river bottom and hill lands we have what is called the flats, a large extent of country that breaks through the river hills about eight miles above Point Pleasant, extending back into the country some six to eight miles, and which is thickly settled with a thrifty and splendid people. It would be a splendid site for a canning factory. Churches and school houses abound everywhere in the county. There are five graded schools. There are many thrifty villages and towns in the county.

Point Pleasant, the county seat, is a town of about 2,500 people. It is situated at the confluence of the Ohio and Great Kanawha Rivers. Its growth has not been rapid, but steady, and has never taken a step backward. Her people don't believe in wild "booms." They are waiting patiently for what they know is coming—the completed locks and dams of the Great Kanawha River. It has no equal now on the Ohio River as a harbor. When the greater facilities are added and the "raw materials" from the mountains can be had here at all times of the year, varied manufacturing industries are certain to follow. The Ohio River Railroad north and south and the Kanawha & Michigan east and west give the town railroad facilities that, with the rivers, will be a potent factor in her progress. There is a school house, cost \$16,000, and it is a great ornament to the town. Point Pleasant is an historic town, and though her people are justly proud thereof, they are too modern in their ideas to think that thereby hangs her prosperity, but realize that her superior natural advantages are destined to make her a city.

There are large coal fields in Mason County, and most of the coal used between Point Pleasant and Parkersburg comes from Mason County mines, Camden, New Haven and Clifton furnishes it. Recurring to the farmers, it can be said that they are prosperous, and many of them have grown rich from the products of their lands.

#### ROANE COUNTY.

Spencer, county seat; formed March 11, 1856, from Kanawha, Jackson and Gilmer; named for Judge Spencer Roane; area, 470 square miles; population, 15,303; assessed value of real and personal property, \$1,547,847; county tax on \$100 valuation, 95 cents.

This county has a hilly and undulating surface. The hills are lower than those of the counties on the large streams of the State, and have broad undu-

lating and level tops, with gentle slopes and considerable valleys between them. The soil is clay, clay loam, sand alluvium, usually with calcareous matter, and very fertile. The depth on the hills and hillsides ranges from nine to twelve inches, and in the bottoms from two to three feet. The bottoms yield, of corn, fifty to seventy-five bushels; wheat, fifteen to thirty bushels; oats, thirty to sixty bushels, without the application of manures. On the hills, corn produces thirty to forty bushels; wheat, fifteen to twenty bushels; oats, twenty to twenty-five bushels. By recent surveys, it is calculated that this county lies within the great oil and gas belt of the Little Kanawha, and holds buried incomputable quantities of these products. Iron ore, lime and tin exist, but no definite assay has been made of the productions. There are fine ledges of sandstone all over the county, and a notable building quality, susceptible of fine polish, easily worked and of a beautiful gray color was used in constructing the Second Asylum for the Insane, at Spencer, being found in inexhaustible ledges upon the asylum premises, and in a few hundred yards of the building. Brick manufactured in this county is pronounced by experienced workmen to be of the very best quality.

The timber of Roane is very fine and commands first-class prices in all the markets of the world. Sycamore, beech, sugar, maple, pine, oak, poplar, ash and walnut are the principal varieties manufactured into lumber or transported to foreign markets. A considerable amount of chestnut, hickory and other varieties, which are less used and exported, are to be found. The lumber field alone presents an object of attraction for the immigrants. The grasses of the county on the uplands and hills are principally of the blue variety, which, after once set, spring up spontaneously in every nook and corner where the undergrowth has been removed. Timothy is largely produced in the bottoms, yielding from one to two tons per acre, without the aid of fertilizers. The clover product is large on any of the lands.

The principal streams of this county are the West Fork River, Henry's Fork of the same river, Poca River, Sandy, Mill Creek and Reedy. Numerous dirt roads thread the county in all directions, and its streams furnish cheap transportation for lumber in flats, rafts or by drifting. Cleared farm land, well grassed, ranges from \$8 to \$15 per acre, according to locality. Wood land and partly cleared land, from \$6 to \$10 per acre; timbered land from \$2 to \$25, according to location and quality of timber. Lumber already manufactured and ready for use can be purchased for—poplar and pine, \$15 to \$18 per thousand; oak, \$12 to \$15; ash, \$15 to \$20; walnut, \$25 to \$40; cherry, \$25 to \$40. Brick is manufactured at Spencer and delivered within a mile of the kiln at \$6 per thousand; sand delivered at 75 cents per square



yard; stone from the quarry from 15 to 25 cents per perch. The people of this county are law-abiding, prosperous, educated, hospitable and kind to the stranger who seeks a home in their midst.

#### SUMMERS COUNTY.

Hinton, county seat; formed February 27, 1871, from Monroe, Mercer, Greenbrier and Fayette; named for Judge G. W. Summers, M.C.; area, 400 square miles; population, 13,117; assessed value of real and personal property, \$1,229,230; county tax on \$100 valuation, 40 cents.

The soil of Summers County is well adapted to farming, tobacco-raising and fruit-growing. There is very little coal in the county. Iron ore exists, but is undeveloped. Good limestone abounds. Timber cutting is one of the principal industries. The forests contain poplar, ash, walnut, oak and all the hard woods. A number of firms are engaged in sawing lumber and manufacturing cooperage stuff. The Greenbrier, New and Bluestone Rivers flow through the county. Two good turnpikes run through the county, besides other good county roads. The Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad runs through the county for about thirty miles. A road is projected from Hinton to connect with the Norfolk & Western; also an extension of the Kanawha & Ohio, and one from the mouth of Bluestone River to connect with the Norfolk & Western. Excellent brown sandstone for building purposes is found in this county, one quarry being engaged in quarrying it for Richmond and other eastern markets. Improved farm land sells for \$100 an acre; lowest \$5. Unimproved farm land, suitable for farming or grazing, is worth from \$5 to \$10. The construction of railroads has enhanced the price of land.

#### RALEIGH COUNTY.

Raleigh C. H., county seat; formed January 23, 1850, from Fayette; named for Sir Walter Raleigh; area, 570 square miles; population, 9,597; assessed value of real and personal property, \$1,190,871; county tax on \$100 valuation, 90 cents.

Raleigh County is in the midst of the celebrated Flat Top coal region, a section of country exceedingly rich in this mineral, the veins being from two and one-half to eleven feet in thickness. Iron ore in workable quantities is

also found. The surface of Raleigh County is hilly and mountainous, with a large proportion of plateau land, covered with undulating and rolling hills. The timber of the county is of excellent quality, great variety and quite extensive. Two hundred persons are engaged in timber cutting. There are a number of saw mills in different parts of the county. The land is admirably adapted to grazing, and it is largely engaged in. The principal streams are the New and Piney Rivers. Both are used for floating lumber and logs. Nine-tenths of the county is uncleared, this character of land being worth \$5 per acre.

#### PUTNAM COUNTY.

Winfield, county seat; formed March 11, 1848, from Kanawha, Cabell and Mason; named for General Putnam; area, 350 square miles; population, 14,342; assessed valuation of real and personal property, \$2,081,846; county tax on \$100 valuation, 45 cents.

Putnam is one of the most important counties in the southwestern part of the State. The surface is generally hilly and rolling. It has considerable bottom land of great fertility on the Kanawha River and numerous creeks. These bottoms are a mile wide on the Kanawha, and have a deep loam. On the hills the soil is clay and calcareous clayey loam, and of considerable productiveness. Winfield, the county seat, is healthfully situated on the southern banks of the Kanawha. The greater part of the county is covered with timber of great variety and excellent quality. The soil is well adapted to fine grasses and tobacco.

The Great Kanawha River runs through the center of the county in a northwesterly direction. The Pocatalico also runs through a portion of the county. The former stream is navigable for steamers, and the latter is used for floating timber and rafts of timber. The Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad runs through the southern part of the county. The Kanawha & Michigan road runs through the center, following the course of the Kanawha River. These two means of transportation, river and rail, afford excellent facilities for reaching the Ohio Valley market. The country has immense deposits of coal of fine quality. The improved farm land sells as high as \$100 an acre. There are a number of churches in the county of the various denominations. There are good schools in the county.

## MERCER COUNTY.

Princeton, county seat; formed March 17, 1837, from Giles and Tazewell; named for General Hugh Mercer; area, 420 square miles; population, 16,002; assessed valuation of real and personal property, \$1,479,800; county tax on \$100 valuation, 70 cents.

Mercer is the southernmost county in the State, and is in the center of a country rich in coal, timber and minerals. The county is flanked on the east by the East River Mountains, and on the west by the Flat Top Mountains. It consists chiefly of hilly or rolling plateau land, with some mountains. The soil is fertile, being of clay, sandy loam and calcareous loam. The land is especially adapted to grass, and a large amount of stock is raised. The soil is also favorable for tobacco-raising, which forms one of the chief exports of the county. There is an abundance of limestone suitable for building and agricultural purposes. Good potters' clay is found. The principal streams in the county are the Bluestone and New Rivers. Large deposits of good brown hematite ore are found in the county. Agricultural, mineral and timber lands can be purchased at reasonable prices.

Being in the celebrated Flat Top coal region there are vast possibilities before the county by the development of the coal-mining industry. This coal field possesses within itself coal of such unusually good quality as to be fit for all purposes for which fuel is required in the various manufacturing industries and blast furnaces. The Norfolk & Western Railroad runs through the southern part of the county, which gives an outlet for the coal. The road is extended through McDowell, and Wyoming down the Big Sandy to Ironton, Ohio, on the Ohio River, thus enabling this rich region to reach the markets of the Great Ohio and Mississippi Valleys.

## MARION COUNTY.

Fairmont, county seat; formed January 14, 1842, from Harrison and Monongalia; named for General Francis Marion; area, 314 square miles; population, 20,721; assessed value of real and personal property, \$5,224,846; county tax on \$100 valuation, 45 cents.

The surface of Marion County, one of the richest in the State, is rolling and hilly. The soil, which is usually pretty deep, and naturally fertile, is limestone and loam, sandy or calcareous. The level and valley land is well adapted to farming, and the hilly portion to grazing and fruit-growing. The

county has now three railroads, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad (main line), the Monongahela River road and the Fairmont, Morgantown & Pittsburgh. The latter connects Fairmont with Morgantown, the seat of the State University, giving a through route to Pittsburgh via the Baltimore & Ohio, and an additional route to Wheeling, through a rich country via the Wheeling & Connellsville road. There are three rivers in the county, the Monongahela, West Fork and Tygart's Valley. Steamboats have been as far as Fairmont, but only when the Monongahela was very high. The streams are utilized for floating timber to market. The water powers of these rivers are excellent, especially at Valley Falls, on the Tygart's Valley River.

The county is exceedingly well off as regards coal, there being a large number of veins from eighteen inches to ten feet in thickness. Mining is carried on extensively and a great quantity is shipped. The mines have excellent shipping facilities, as indicated above. Coke-making is one of the important industries of the county. Indeed, Marion County is just now the center of the coke industry of the northern coke region of West Virginia. Although it is in its infancy, the manufacture of this article of commerce is assuming large proportions, and investments by capitalists with a view to developing the territory are constantly being made. The county is well adapted to stock-raising, and the live stock shipments from Fairmont have been extensive for some years.

There is an abundance of fine timber in the forests consisting of oak, poplar, sugar, walnut, hickory and other varieties. There are three planing mills at Fairmont which do a good business. There are two tanneries, one located at Fairmont, and the other at Mannington. There are quite a number of grist mills. The construction of new railroads and coal and coke plants has enhanced the price of land, especially coal lands, and projected roads have appreciated the value. The county has subscribed liberally to new railroads, and the people are willing to give reasonable aid.

New people are much desired, and will be cordially welcomed, and capitalists will find safe and profitable investments in the county. There are excellent openings for glass factories and rolling mills. Fire clay is abundant in the county. The Glade Company manufactures a superior quality of furnace brick at Nuzum's Mills. A variety of clay exists which is suitable for paving purposes. The supply is almost inexhaustible. Mannington and Palatine are both important points in the county. Palatine is on the Monongahela River, opposite Fairmont. Mannington is a busy, bustling manufacturing and oil town. The oil developments during the past year have resulted in great activity in and about the town.

## TAYLOR COUNTY.

Grafton, county seat; formed January 19, 1844, from Harrison, Barbour and Marion; named for General Zachary Taylor; area, 177 square miles; population, 12,147; assessed value of real and personal property, \$3,613,090; county tax on \$100 valuation, 40 cents.

In the general progress which is now marking the development of the resources of West Virginia, Taylor County, as an integral part of the Commonwealth, asks to be heard in presentation of her part of the elements that go to make up the wealth of the State. The surface of the county is nowhere mountainous, but consists of valleys, levels and hills. The larger streams, tributaries of the Monongahela, cut down deep into the surface and expose many different strata of coal, iron ore and clay. The county is divided by the Tygart's Valley River into two distinct regions, the eastern and western. The former extends from the river to the foot hills of Laurel Ridge, and may be classed as the mineral part of the county; the latter lies between the river and the counties of Harrison and Marion, and is the grazing region, although it has as fine a vein of gas coal, nine feet in thickness, as can be found in the State. The soil is fertile, the hills being as productive as the levels, and much of the county is included in the "blue-grass belt," which insures its excellence for grazing purposes. Owing to the industrial development and projected railroads, the price of lands has advanced and values are increasing.

The timber of Taylor County consists principally of white oak, black oak, rock oak, red oak, black walnut, poplar, beech, ash, chestnut and hickory. The coal veins of the county have only partially been developed, but it is known to possess at least 10,000 acres of what is known as the "Pittsburgh Bed," varying in thickness from eight to eleven feet. Specimens of the coke made from the coal of this vein are bright, dense and firm, and the equal of any coke made in Pennsylvania. In addition it is safe to say that five-sixths of the county are underlaid with the seams of coal contained in the "Lower Measures." It is a safe assertion that in no section of the State does fire clay abound in greater quantities or of such superior excellence than in this county. It appears as far east as the Preston boundary, and specimens taken from the deposits at Irontown and Thorntown have stood the test of practical experiment. The iron ore fields along the foot hills of Laurel Ridge in the eastern part of the county are of great magnitude and but little explored. The ore is found in veins of from one foot to sixteen feet in thick-

ness, and in richness varying from forty to sixty per cent. Manganese is also found.

The main stem of the Baltimore & Ohio runs through the county east and west from the Preston County line to the Marion line, and the Parkersburg Branch extends from Grafton to the Harrison County line through the southwest portion of the county. The Grafton & Greenbrier, which was largely built by county aid, extends into the virgin forest and immense coal fields of the interior of the State. The Fairmont, Morgantown & Pittsburgh Railroad, a branch of the Baltimore & Ohio, has its southern beginning at Grafton, Taylor County.

#### MONONGALIA COUNTY.

Morgantown, county seat; formed October, 1775, from Augusta County; named for the river Monongahela (Indian name for "River of Caving or Crumbling Banks"); area, 325 square miles; population, 15,705; assessed value of real and personal property, \$5,165,901; county tax on \$100 valuation, 62 1-2 cents.

Monongalia County is one of the most prosperous in the State. The Monongahela River traverses it in a direction a little east to north. Cheat River and Decker's Creek come in on the southeast, while Dunkard and Big Indian Creeks join the river from the west, and a great number of lesser streams furnish an abundant and never-failing supply of water. The surface is rolling and hilly, without being abrupt, for the most part, and is mountainous only in the extreme eastern border. The soil on the west side of the river is mainly a rich alluvial in the valleys and bottoms, and composed of limestone, and loam with a substratum of clay, on the higher ground. Much of the most productive and best grazing lands are found on the hills. Blue grass is indigenous to the greater part of the county.

Five veins or seams of bituminous coal, all of commercial value, with a number of smaller ones, present their out-crop along the valley of the Monongahela from the State line to the Marion County line, a distance of about twenty miles. They vary in thickness from five to eleven feet of good merchantable coal, and are perfectly free from ash, sulphur and slate partings. Natural gas has been found in abundance at a number of points in this coal field. Oil is now being produced in paying quantities. Limestone for farm and mechanical use abounds in nearly every part of the county. Fire clays of various qualities, suitable for paving and fire brick, tiling and

terra-cotta work, abound on the east side of the river, and building stone of fine gray and blue sandstone everywhere abound. The iron ores of this county have been successfully used in the six blast furnaces, operated here many years ago, but abandoned for want of transportation facilities.

Transportation is furnished by the Monongahela River, which is made navigable by locks and dams from Pittsburgh to Morgantown, and by the Fairmont, Morgantown & Pittsburgh Railroad. Over one hundred primary schools exist in the rural parts of the county, with a graded school at Morgantown. A female seminary and the State University offer opportunities of the most advanced character. The building of the Fairmont, Morgantown & Pittsburgh Railroad has greatly increased the value and selling price of coal lands, and in a lesser degree farm lands and town lots. Cheap fuel (coal, coke and gas), pure water in abundance, healthy climate, river and rail transportation in competition, low prices for lands and light taxes, with cheap raw material (such as wool, timber, ore, fire clay, glass sand and tan bark) at hand and with a good agricultural community to draw upon for food supplies, mark this county as one of the very best in the Union for manufacturing enterprises.

#### WIRT COUNTY.

Elizabeth, county seat; formed January 19, 1848, from Wood and Jackson; named for William Wirt; area, 290 square miles; population, 9,411; assessed value of real and personal property, \$1,320,634; county tax on \$100 valuation, \$1.00.

Wirt County is one of the most prosperous counties of the interior, and is a fine field awaiting the work of the developer. It has made rapid advancement despite its lack of railroads. It has a number of churches and good schools. There are two newspapers, the West Virginia Transcript and Elizabeth Times. There are no existing railroads, but one is projected from the Wood County line on the Little Kanawha River, and following the river in general to the Wirt and Calhoun County line, the entire width of the county, a distance of twenty-eight miles. The waterways are the Hughes and Little Kanawha Rivers.

The soils are clay, or clay loam, eighteen inches deep on the level lands, and averaging eight inches on the hills, being deepest and best on the north sides. The land is very fertile and especially adapted to grazing and fruit-growing. Bituminous coal is found in veins from six to nine feet in thickness,

at a depth of sixty to one hundred feet below the surface. Iron ore is found all over the county in veins from seven to eleven feet thick. Limestone is found in large quantities in the western portion of the county. Improved lands are increasing in value, and range from \$10 to \$130 per acre. Unimproved lands bring good prices.

#### WEBSTER COUNTY.

Addison, county seat; formed January 10, 1860, from Preston, Nicholas and Randolph; named for Daniel Webster; area, 415 square miles; population, 4,783; assessed value of real and personal property, \$602,767; county tax on \$100 valuation, 80 cents.

The County of Webster is situated very near the geographical center of the State, bounded north by Upshur and Lewis, east by Randolph and Pocahontas, south by Pocahontas and Greenbrier, and west by Nicholas and Braxton. The surface of Webster County varies greatly in different sections. The proportion of smooth arable land is very large. The Webster table lands begin near the headwaters of Buckhannon and Holly Rivers, extending southward so as to embrace the headwaters of Grassy Creek, back fork of Elk, Gauley proper, Williams and Cherry Rivers, including much of what is called upper and lower glades along the line of the Pittsburgh & West Virginia Railroad. The county is traversed from east to west by a larger number of good-sized streams than any other county in the State, and all being above and including the line of rapids, which extend through the mountains, they abound in water power, which is available at almost every point for manufacturing purposes.

The soil of Webster County generally consists of a rich black loam, underlaid in part with limestone, and of enduring fertility. It produces, under moderate cultivation, corn, thirty-five to fifty bushels; wheat, fifteen to twenty bushels; oats, twenty to fifty bushels; potatoes, one hundred to three hundred bushels per acre, and for buckwheat, rye and turnips beats the State. The blue grass springs up spontaneously from the soil so soon as the timber and shade are removed, and forms the main resource of the grazing interest, which is very rapidly increasing. The timber in this county is of extraordinary size and superior quality, consisting principally of poplar, cherry, walnut, sugar, maple, beech, birch, ash, hemlock, white oak, black oak, rock oak, chestnut and spruce. Many poplar trees are found measuring from four to nine feet in diameter, and being from forty to eighty feet in



length. Capitalists are now fast awakening to the desirability of purchasing Webster County lands for their timber. Extensive purchases have been made in timber lands, and prices which two years ago run from \$1 to \$3 now are taken readily at from \$5 to \$15.

Webster County lying on the eastern edge of the great coal basin of West Virginia, contains a number of fine coal veins of superior bituminous coal; several have lately been discovered of three to ten feet in thickness, and a very recent one of twelve feet has been discovered, which, in all probability, includes every acre of land in the county. The cannel coal which opens up near the mouth of Lamel Creek, and extends to the Hollys, is supposed to be of very fine quality. Iron ore and fire clay are abundant. Salt has been produced in this county and can be obtained in paying quantities. Mineral springs are plentiful. The famous salt sulphur are on the Elk River at Addison, the county seat. The medical worth of these springs is too well known to need comment.

#### HARRISON COUNTY.

Clarksburg, county seat; formed May, 1784, from Monongalia; named for Governor Harrison; area, 464 square miles; population, 21,919; assessed value of real and personal property, \$8,465,298; county tax on \$100 valuation, 33 1-3 cents.

The surface of Harrison County is hilly and rolling, and was originally heavily timbered. The west fork of the Monongahela River flows from south to north through the county, with numerous streams and creeks flowing into it from the east and west sides. The river is not navigable, but on it and its tributaries are many water power sites that are being utilized in running grist and saw mills. The soil is a fertile loam and all the grains and fruits can be produced to an advantage. The county has for many years stood at the head of the cattle-producing counties of the State, and still occupies that position. The county lies in the celebrated Pittsburgh coal field, which is the largest bituminous coal area known in the world, about two-thirds of the surface of the county being underlaid with it. The mining is all drift or horizontal mining. The coal crops out on the sides of the hills and the working vein is from seven to nine feet thick.

Natural gas has been discovered in several portions of the county, but no practical use has yet been made of it. Oil has been found in the western portion of the county. About three-fourths of the acreage of the county has

been cleared of the natural growth of timber, and is under cultivation. The most of remaining wood land is timber culled, but there is an abundance for fencing and farming purposes. The value of land ranges from \$12 to \$40 per acre according to location and improvement. Limestone is found in nearly all portions of the county. Fire clay, building stone, and sand are abundant. The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad runs through the county from east to west, having six stations in the county besides coal and coke sidings. The West Virginia & Pittsburgh Railroad runs from Clarksburg south to Weston and Buckhannon, and is being extended further south from both of these points, and will soon make a connection with the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad, which crosses the southern part of the State. The Monongahela River Railroad runs north from Clarksburg down the river to Fairmont. Coal mines are opened up along this line, and coke plants established.

The county is dotted all over with churches and school houses. Nearly all the different denominations are represented, the Baptist and Methodist predominating. There are 145 school houses in the county and 189 teachers employed, and the children of school age number 7,548. Clarksburg, the county seat, is located on the river at the intersection of the railroads mentioned, and contains about 5,000 inhabitants. It is eighty-two miles from Parkersburg, and nearly half way between Baltimore and Cincinnati—nine hours from each. It is the distributing point for a population of 100,000 people, and has a rich and productive country for a radius of many miles around it. It has a handsome government building and court house, and fine business houses and private residences. The town owns a system of water works, and there are gas works owned by a private corporation, and also an electric-light plant and two telephone exchanges.

Clarksburg has three banks, viz.: The Merchants' National, the Traders' National, and the West Virginia Bank. It also has three weekly newspapers, viz.: The Telegram (Republican), the News (Democratic), and the Tribune. It has just erected a fine brick school house at a cost of about \$20,000.

#### MINGO COUNTY.

Mingo County was formed by an act of the Legislature of 1895, making the fifty-fifth county in the State.

# REMINISCENCES.

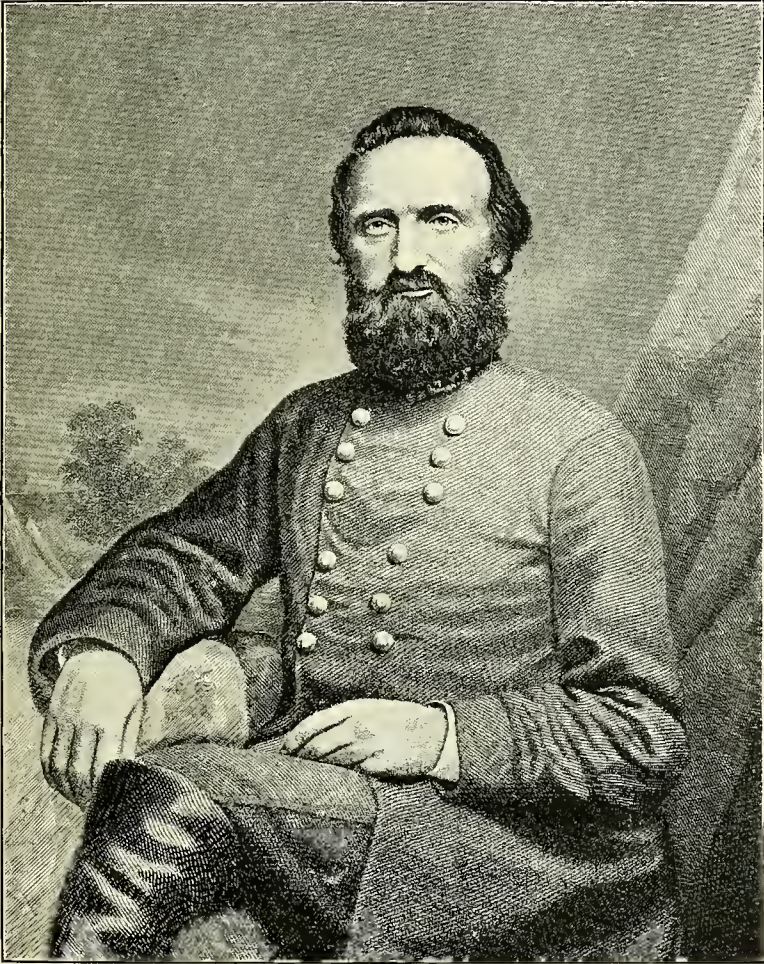
## CHAPTER III.

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### LIEUT.-GEN. THOMAS JONATHAN JACKSON.

This noted General, more familiarly known as "Stonewall" Jackson, was born in Clarksburg, West Virginia, January 21, 1824. His great-grandfather came to this country from London, England, in 1748, and in Maryland was married to Elizabeth Cummings, soon after which he moved to West Virginia, where he founded a large family. When seven years old, Thomas J. Jackson was left an orphan by the death of his father, who was a lawyer, and for a short time thereafter he made his home with his paternal aunt, Mrs. Brake, but objecting to the treatment of his uncle, he took shelter under the roof of a half-brother of his father, Cummings Jackson, in Lewis County. He and his brother Warren were there kindly cared for and were placed in school. The latter chafed under the restraint of the schoolroom, and when fourteen years old demanded his independence, which was given him by his uncle, and when starting out to seek his fortune, induced his brother, Thomas J., to accompany him. They then made their home with a maternal uncle, a Mr. Neale, on Blennerhasset Island, in the Ohio River, but Warren again rebelled at his enforced attendance at school, and the following spring, accompanied by his brother as before, he went down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to the southwestern part of Kentucky, and that summer was spent on one of the lonely islands in the Mississippi, their time being occupied in cutting cord wood for the passing steamers. Their sufferings from ague finally compelled them to seek a way to their old home, and they were charitably given passage on a steamer and reached their uncle's ragged and emaciated. Here Thomas remained and assisted in the work of his uncle's farm, by which means he strengthened a by no means rugged constitution, and also acquired a practical education in the common schools, although he possessed no decided talent for any particular branch, with

the possible exception of mathematics. At the age of sixteen his friends secured him the position of constable, but he resigned this position to accept his cadetship at West Point. Cummings Jackson, though a temperate and energetic man, was utterly devoid of Christianity, and was considerable of a sporting character. He kept race horses and young Thomas was often chosen as jockey in close races. Although the general morals of the community were loose, Thomas retained his truthfulness and honesty, and the other habits formed, which were mere foibles, were wholly eradicated during his first two years at the military academy, and he eventually became an earnest member and worker in the Presbyterian Church. After graduating from West Point, in 1846, he was ordered to Mexico as a Lieutenant in Magruder's Battery, and was in General Scott's campaign. He was twice brevetted for good conduct at Churubusco and Chapultepec. He resigned from the army in 1851, after being elected professor of philosophy and artillery tactics in Virginia Military Institute. A few days after the secession of Virginia, he took command of the troops that were collecting at Harper's Ferry, but soon after became commander of a brigade in Johnson's army, which position he held at the battle of Bull Run. Here he obtained his sobriquet of "Stonewall," for when the left of the Confederate line had been driven back, his brigade was the first to get into position, and the broken troops were rallied, took the aggressive and in a short time gained a victory. During a crisis of the fight General Bee, in rallying his men, said: "See, there is Jackson standing like a stone wall; rally on the Virginians." For his conduct at Bull Run Jackson was made Major-General, and in November, 1861, was assigned to the command of the district that included the Shenandoah Valley and that land northwest of it. In March, 1862, with 3,500 men, he attacked the Union forces at Kernstown, and, although defeated, the attack was made with great vigor. In April, he began his campaign in the valley, the Confederate troops in Northern Virginia having been placed in his command—numbering about 19,000 men—and after striking a severe blow at Fremont, he concentrated his forces against Banks in the Shenandoah Valley, surprised him at Winchester, drove him beyond the Potomac, and made large captures of stores and prisoners. Although he feared an attack from McDowell, Fremont, Banks and Sigel, he managed to escape with his prisoners and stores and retreated up the valley, burning bridges to keep Fremont and McDowell apart. After a number of minor engagements he threw his forces upon the head of McDowell's column, near Port Republic, was victorious, then made forced marches to Richmond to join Lee in attacking McClellan. Jackson turned the scale in



*J. V. Jackson*



the battle of Gaines' Mill, and was also active in the engagement of McClellan's retreat. In July, Jackson was again sent to the Shenandoah Valley, and on August 9, defeated Banks at Cedar Run, and later was successful in his endeavor to seize the depot at Manassas, thus cutting off Pope's communications, and later defeated him in what was known as the Second Battle of Bull Run. September 15, he was instrumental in capturing the post at Harper's Ferry, with 13,000 prisoners and seventy cannon, and the following day, by a severe night march, reached Sharpsburg and commanded the left wing of the Confederate army, and although his lines thinned, he maintained himself throughout the day. He had been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-General, and on December 12, 1862, commanded the right wing of the Confederates at Fredericksburg. At Chancellorsville, in 1863, Jackson's Corps was ordered to meet Hooker, and on the morning of the 1st of May, assumed the aggressive, and Hooker withdrew and established lines of defense. Jackson was then ordered to make a flank movement, but his movement was discovered and a brigade was sent back to cover his rear and his march was continued. Late in the evening he came upon the rear of General Howard's Corps and Jackson quickly formed his men into three lines of battle. He routed Howard's Corps, but was finally checked by a powerful artillery fire from batteries brought into line. Between 8 and 9 o'clock, Jackson with a small party rode forward beyond his own lines to reconnoiter, and when he turned to ride back his party was mistaken for National cavalry, and a volley was poured into it from Lane's Brigade. Several of the party were killed and Jackson received three wounds, two in the left arm and one in the right hand. When he had been assisted from his horse and the blood stanchied, it was some time before he could be conveyed into his own lines, owing to the fierce artillery fire that swept the field. One of his litter bearers fell wounded and the General was much injured by the fall. His left arm was amputated, and for a number of days he seemed to be doing well, but is supposed to have taken cold from a damp mattress on which he lay and he was attacked by pneumonia, which resulted in his death at Guinea Station, Virginia, May 10, 1863. Under these lamentable circumstances closed the career of one of the ablest generals of the great Civil War. His remains were taken to Richmond, whence, after a public funeral, they were removed to Lexington. He was twice married, first to Miss Eleanor Junkin, and secondly to Miss Mary Ann Morrison, who, with one daughter, survives him.

## DR. FLEMING HOWELL.

The profession of medicine, while a very inviting field for the student and humanitarian, is one that demands much self-denial and the exercise of repression and the sacrifice of the ordinary methods of advancing one's interests. It is one of the noblest professions, one of the most beneficial to mankind, and while it is prosecuted for gain, it is in its very nature nearest to beneficent charity. One of the most prominent of the followers of this noble calling in Harrison County, West Virginia, is Dr. Fleming Howell. He was born in Monongalia County, Virginia, and was educated at Pruntytown, West Virginia, and at the West Virginia University at Morgantown. He studied medicine with Dr. Hugh W. Brock, of Morgantown, one of the foremost physicians and surgeons of the State, and afterward, for two years, was associated with him in practice. He attended lectures at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, and at the Long Island College Hospital, New York, from the latter of which he graduated in 1879. The next year he located in Clarksburg, West Virginia, where he has since practiced. He is a member of the Harrison County Medical Society, of the Medical Society of the State of West Virginia, of the American Medical Association, and in 1887 was a member of the International Medical Congress, in Washington, D. C. He is the present president of the County Medical Society, has been vice-president of the State Medical Society and president of the County Board of Health. He has served two terms on the Board of Examining Surgeons for Pensions at Clarksburg, and has been for several years local surgeon for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company. He has kept in touch with the advances made in medicine and surgery, and has contributed somewhat to medical journals. In addition to professional work, he has been active in business enterprises and interested in the improvement of the section in which his lot has been cast. He is vice-president of the Traders' National Bank and a stockholder and director in several other business enterprises. He was married in Weston, West Virginia, to Miss Gertrude Bennett, a daughter of Hon. Jonathan M. Bennett and Margaret (Jackson) Bennett, both of whom are now dead, the latter being a connection



of the famous Confederate General, "Stonewall" Jackson. Dr. Howell's family is one of many, descended from William Howell, to whom was granted the manor of Westburg, in Marsh Gibbon, Buckinghamshire, England, in 1536. Edward, a grandson of this William, disposed of the estates in England and with his family came to Boston in 1639. During the winter of that year and of 1640 a new settlement was projected on Long Island, of which he seemed to have been the leader. "The title to the eight miles square of land upon which the settlement was made, and upon which the town of Southampton was established, was made to Edward Howell & Co." "The arms of the family as found on an old family seal now in possession of one of the descendants, and upon several old tombstones of the Seventeenth Century, in Southampton, are as follows: Gules, three towers triple-towered, argent. Crest used by some branches. Out of a ducal crown or, a rose argent stalked and leaved vert, between two wings, indorsed of the last. Motto: Tenax propositi. 'A list of ye inhabitants of ye Towne of Southampton, old and young, Christian and Heathen, freemen and servants, white and black, Anno, 1698 (from MSS. records in office of Secretary of State, Albany, N. Y.),' shows the descendants of this family to have numbered forty-three male and thirty-seven female members." During Colonial times, Edward Howell was Representative to the Assembly at Hartford from 1647 to 1653 inclusive, and Major John Howell for the year 1664. "This latter was a man of special distinction and one who, more than any of his contemporaries in Southampton, was entrusted with the management of public business, especially in its graver relations with New England and the Colonial Government of New York." Colonel Matthew Howell was a Representative for Suffolk County in the Colonial Legislature of New York in 1691 and 1692 and from 1694 to 1706 inclusive. "April 17, 1701, he was honored with an expulsion from that body by the Governor, for presenting a paper considered 'disloyal to His Majesty and disaffected to his government,' a paper, however, 'which we should now regard simply as breathing only the sentiments of a larger liberty than that vouchsafed to the colonists of that day. Colonel Howell was, to the credit of his constituents, promptly selected and sent back to the same Assembly.'" "February 25, 1673, Captain John Howell of Southampton, with sixty men, in conjunction with Major Winthrop of the Connecticut Militia, repulsed, after a spirited engagement, a Dutch fleet of four vessels which was threatening Southold." Long Island had two regiments and a regiment of "Minute Men" in the battle of Long Island, August 27, 1776. Phineas Howell was on the staff of Colonel David Mulford of the Second Regiment, and the Seventh Company of this regiment had Josiah Howell, Captain; Nathaniel

Howell, First Lieutenant, and Matthew Howell, Second Lieutenant. Nathaniel Howell, Jr., was First Lieutenant in the First Southampton Company of Minute Men. The colonists of Southampton were Independents in the matter of their religion. "Each church, as it was established, had a jealous regard for its own individual independence, and wanted no Metropolitan Bishop or Council to dictate to it laws or injunctions." From time to time individual families and small colonies moved westward from their original home. Many of the Howells settled in New Jersey. Soon after the Revolution, Samuel Howell moved to Loudoun County, Virginia, and here, in 1798, was born, in or near Leesburg, Teven Howell, who in early manhood married Ann King and came to Monongalia County and settled on a farm. Here the subject of religion was accidentally deeply impressed upon him. After a careful investigation he seems to have reverted to the Independent religious tendencies of his ancestors. He sought a Baptist missionary and with his young wife and a few of his neighbors, organized the Goshen Baptist Church, was soon himself ordained, and became a pioneer Baptist preacher. He was subsequently instrumental in erecting the well-known old Goshen Baptist Church Building. Rev. Teven Howell was an earnest preacher and a candid, thoroughly conscientious man. He was one of the two first men to vote the Republican ticket in Monongalia County, and in this respect, as in his church relations, his son William followed in his footsteps. The latter, who is the father of the subject of this sketch, acquired a common-school education, grew up and was married to Eliza, daughter of Thomas and Mary (Miller) Lanham, both of whom were among the early settlers of that section of the State.

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### C. SPRIGG SANDS.

The intelligence and business ability shown by C. Sprigg Sands as a man of affairs, and the active interest and part he has taken in the advancement of measures for the good of his section, caused him long since to be classed as one of its leading citizens. He claims West Virginia as his natal State, and on the 8th of January, 1863, his birth occurred at Fairmont, where his father, Joseph E. Sands, was then residing. The latter was born in Annapo-

lis, Maryland, in 1839, his father, William Sands, being a successful practicing physician of that famous naval city. The family of Sands originally came from England during the colonial history of this country, and took up their residence in Maryland, where some of the family have ever since been known as honorable and useful members of society. Joseph E. Sands has been a banker for many years and has long been the efficient cashier of the First National Bank of Fairmont, and without doubt, his son, the subject of this sketch, acquired a liking for the business through his father's example. He is one of the seven survivors of a family of eight children born to his parents: Lawrence E., who is cashier of the Exchange Bank of Wheeling, West Virginia, was educated at the Fairmont Normal School, is a man of family, and is now thirty-four years of age; Harry S., is a married man and is an electrician in the Peabody Building, Wheeling; Oliver J. is also married, and is assistant cashier in the First National Bank of Fairmont; William H. is taking a medical course in the University of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia; Emily T., Anna D., Lulu G., who died at the age of twenty-one years, and C. Sprigg Sands. The latter was educated in the State Normal School at Fairmont, West Virginia, from which he was graduated in 1880, when eighteen years of age. After leaving school he entered the First National Bank of Fairmont as clerk, and here worked his way up step by step until he held the position of assistant cashier, in which capacity he remained with the bank up to April 1, 1891, when he took an active part in establishing the Traders' National Bank of Clarksburg. He was at once elected cashier of the bank, and has since very efficiently discharged the duties of this office. For a man of his years he has had more practical experience in the banking business than almost any other man in the State—seventeen in all, and in this respect as well as in natural qualifications, he is admirably fitted for the office he holds. Aside from the position of cashier, he has held other responsible official positions, and has always acquitted himself creditably. In political matters his support has always been given to the Democratic party, and socially he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and is a founder of the Mt. City Lodge No. 48, in which he has passed all the chairs. He also belongs to the Uniformed Rank, and is an ex-captain of Pinnickinnick Lodge at Clarksburg. He is a member of the Episcopal Church, the church order of Brotherhood of St. Andrew at Clarksburg, has held all the positions in the order, and is junior warden of his church. Mr. Sands was married to Miss Lulu M. Shafer, daughter of Dr. J. P. Shafer, of Terra Alta, Preston County, West Virginia, who has been a practicing physician for many years and long resided in Morgan-

town, West Virginia, where Mrs. Sands was born. She was educated in Pittsburgh and Parkersburg, and is an intelligent and amiable woman. She is also a member of the Episcopal Church.

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## JOSEPH E. SANDS.

Joseph E. Sands, an able financier and representative business man of West Virginia, who has been largely instrumental in the material development of Fairmont, and the growth and prosperity of the financial and manufacturing interests of that place, is a son of Dr. William and Charlotte (Du Vaw) Sands, and was born in Annapolis, Maryland, September 10, 1835. The Sands family in the United States was founded in the last century, by Colonel Joseph, who was born and reared in Wales, which country he left at an early age, to seek mercantile and commercial success in the New World. He settled at Annapolis, Maryland, where he became a prominent merchant. He owned a line of vessels, that was engaged in a lucrative coasting trade, up and down the Chesapeake Bay. He served in the War of 1812, with the rank of Colonel, and died some years afterward at Annapolis. Colonel Sands married and his son, Dr. William Sands, was born in 1801, and was a graduate of St. John's Classical College. He read medicine in his native city, Annapolis, with Dr. Pinckney, and at the close of his required course of reading, entered the medical department of the University of Maryland, at Baltimore, from which he was graduated. He practiced in Millersville, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, for forty years and then removed to Baltimore, where, four years later, he retired from active professional service, after a successful career of nearly half a century. Dr. Sands was a man of education and liberal thought, a leading physician of his day, and a strong Democrat in political opinion. He died in 1877, when in the seventy-sixth year of his age. He married Miss Charlotte Du Vaw.

Joseph E. Sands grew to manhood in his native city, where he received his education in St. John's College, and then making a choice of a business pursuit, in preference to a professional life, he became a merchant in the Monumental City. After some time spent in the mercantile business, he came west along the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, in quest of a favorable

location, and having made choice of Fairmont, did not wait for an opportunity, but accepted the first employment that offered, which was a clerkship in the Fairmont Bank. He served as clerk from January, 1855, until 1862, when he became cashier. Three years later, the Fairmont Bank became the First National Bank of Fairmont, and Mr. Sands was elected cashier, a position which he has held ever since. He is justly regarded as a financier of ability and experience, and much of the high standing of the bank may be ascribed to his energy, efforts and wise counsels. The business of the bank, extensive as it has been for the last forty years, has never taken but a part of Mr. Sands' time, the remainder of which has been devoted to the upbuilding of Fairmont, from a small village, to a place having almost the proportions of a Nineteenth Century city. Mr. Sands was united in marriage with Mary V. Eyster, a daughter of William D. Eyster, of Fairmont. They had eight children: Laurence E., assistant cashier of the National Bank of West Virginia, at Wheeling; C. Sprigg, cashier of the Traders' National Bank, at Clarksburg, Harrison County; Harry S., an electrical engineer, at Wheeling; Olive T., assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Fairmont; William Hupp, a medical student of the University of Pennsylvania; Lulu, who died at the age of seventeen; Emily, and Anna D. Joseph E. Sands is imbued with a commendable pride in the history and advancement of his town and county, and has a warm attachment to all their interests. He is assiduously devoted to the welfare of Fairmont, and has done much toward the development of the place, by helping to found some enterprises, and aiding others, whose far-reaching influences are beneficial to the county and State. He was one of the organizers of the Monongalia Coal and Coke Company, of which he first served as secretary and treasurer, and of which he is now president and treasurer. He is one of the organizers of the Fairmont Machine Works Company, treasurer of the Monongahela Railroad Company, and a director of the Fairmont Company. Prominent and active in business, yet he neglects not any duty, of society or good citizenship. He is a Democrat in political opinion, has been a member for some years of Marion Lodge No. 6, Free and Accepted Masons. He is an active member and supporter of the Protestant Episcopal Church, of whose Sunday school he was superintendent for a quarter of a century.

Mr. Sands is a man of excellent and useful traits of character. Energetic, prompt and painstaking in the discharge of every duty, he leaves nothing to chance or good fortune, and believes that good luck is but the result of good management. Perseverance and patience are among his most striking characteristics, and he makes himself thoroughly acquainted with the

minutest details of business he may have in hand. His power of analysis and combination and his fine executive ability enable him to secure the skillful execution of his work, in any business and financial enterprise in which he may be engaged. His powers of organization and construction are remarkable traits of his character, and are of great benefit to him, in his various business enterprises. System, order and dispatch are well developed and carefully cultivated wherever he is interested, and his marked success is due to his business ability, untiring perseverance, and good commercial methods. As a citizen, Mr. Sands is highly esteemed by all who have business or social intercourse with him, while his integrity and honor are unquestioned. His name stands among the most honored of West Virginia business men—honored in the church and society and among all classes to whom he is known.

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## THE TRADERS' NATIONAL BANK OF CLARKSBURG, W. VA.

The banking business is a clean and honorable one, and the most astute and able minds of the country find in that line the most congenial work. No branch of business in America can make a stronger showing of solid thinkers, brilliant financiers, and more subtle organizers. The City of Clarksburg, West Virginia, can show its quota of strong and capable bankers and a sufficiency of banking capital to meet the demands of business. Men of large means and great energy are identified with these institutions and the various officials are peculiarly qualified for their respective duties. The bank above mentioned merits special attention, for it has attained prominence notwithstanding its short life. It was incorporated on the 12th of May, 1891, with a capital stock of \$85,000, and its present resources amount to \$426,991.93. The directors, T. Moore Jackson, Dr. Fleming Howell, W. Brent Maxwell, William Hood and Joseph E. Sands, are among the leading business and professional men of Clarksburg and vicinity, and under their able direction the bank has become one of the most important in the State. Prompt and careful attention is bestowed upon all their patrons, together with the utmost liberality consistent with good banking, and the best methods

of doing all things are employed, not only for the credit of the bank, but for the greatest safety to their customers. The officers of the bank are: T. Moore Jackson, president; Dr. Fleming Howell, vice president, and C. Sprigg Sands, cashier. The bank office is one of the finest in West Virginia, completely fitted up with all the latest appliances for their convenience and the safety of their property and that entrusted to them, and everything about the establishment is conducted with clock-work precision. The stockholders of this bank also formed the organization known as the Traders' Company, which is one of the largest stock companies of the city, and it is incorporated with a capital stock of \$100,000. They built the Traders' Grand Opera House, which is one of the handsomest structures of the kind in the State, has a seating capacity of 1,000, and is admirably arranged. They also erected the Traders' Hotel, which is one of the finest pieces of architecture of which West Virginia can boast. It contains seventy-two sleeping rooms, elegant and commodious parlors, a fine office and a large and handsome dining room, heated by steam and lighted by electricity, the plant of the latter being in the building. The Traders' National Bank is in this building, which is a remarkably handsome one built of pressed brick and stone and three stories and a basement in height. It is conveniently located in the very heart of the city, at the corner of Main and Third Streets, and for this reason alone, the hotel would be remarkably popular with the traveling public. The building has excellent elevator service, and, in fact, is a valuable addition to the city, and speaks well for the enterprise of the men who erected it.

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## CAPTAIN SYLVESTER B. PHILLIPS.

The entire life of this gentleman has been passed in activity, and has not been without substantial evidences of success. He is an excellent type of the enterprise, industry and self-reliance so noticeable in the West Virginia business man, and a work of this kind would not be complete were not mention made of his career and its results. He was born in Lewis (now Upshur) County, in 1830, the third of eleven children born to Richard and Eliza (Perry) Phillips, the former of whom was born in Massachusetts and removed to Virginia about 1807. He was brought up to a knowledge of

farming and followed this and the calling of a millwright until death closed his career. His widow still survives him and is quite advanced in years. David Phillips, his father, was also a native of Massachusetts, but at an early date removed his family and household effects to Virginia by ox team, located in French Creek bottom, where he opened up a good farm and reared his family. The maternal grandfather, Elias Perry, was a native of Rhode Island and removed to the Old Dominion at about the same time as did the Phillips family, and although he had previously been a manufacturer, he turned his attention to tilling the soil also upon locating in Virginia. He was a cousin of the famous Lake Erie naval hero, Commodore Perry. In the common schools of Upshur County, the subject of this sketch received a practical common-school education. While growing up he learned the millwright's and carpenter's trades and worked at them successfully until after the firing on Fort Sumter, when he at once espoused the Union cause and began raising a company, which was the first formed in this part of the State. He was at once elected its Captain and on June 21, 1861, joined General McClellan at Clarksburg and served as his body guard in West Virginia. He was in the battle of Rich Mountain and at McDowell, Virginia, where he was wounded, and after being laid up for several months, was attached to the recruiting service at Clarksburg. He then served as Provost Marshal for some time, after which he was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps and served the balance of the time in Kentucky. He was in an engagement with General Morgan at Lexington, Kentucky, and was mustered out at that place. He deserves great credit for his prompt action when the war opened, for had he delayed action, public sentiment might have turned to the South. He had three brothers in the Federal service and in all there were twenty-one members of the Phillips family in the Union service. When the war closed he returned to his home in West Virginia and engaged in merchandising at Buckhannon, but at the same time was engaged in contracting and building, and erected many of the original fine buildings of the place. However, he soon drifted into real estate and became one of the most extensive operators in the place. This business still occupies his attention and has proven remunerative. He has been quite an active politician, has been a delegate to various Republican State Conventions, and has served as Mayor of Buckhannon for about twenty years, during which time he has always been active for the best interests of the place. He was first married to Miss Marcia L. Sumner, a native of Berkshire County, Massachusetts, a daughter of Daniel Sumner, who was a first cousin of United States Senator Charles Sumner. Mrs. Phillips died in 1876,



leaving four children: Leonard B., Clara D., wife of C. W. Heavner; Ellen S., wife of Jerome W. Stuart, and Claudius S. The second marriage of Mr. Phillips occurred in 1878, Miss Louisa M. Leonard, a native of West Virginia, and the daughter of Frank Leonard, an early settler of this section, becoming his wife. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips are worthy members of the Presbyterian Church, and socially he is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. He is a charter member of the Grand Army of the Republic post at this place and also of the Electric Light Company. The Phillips family is one of the most noteworthy of New England and originated in Wales. It has numbered among its members many prominent public men, among whom may be mentioned Wendell Phillips and Philip Phillips.

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## WILLIAM G. BROWN.

The family of the Browns of Scotland is a very numerous and ancient family; many of them yet inhabit that country, and many have emigrated to England and Ireland. John Brown, the grandfather of the individual, a sketch of whose life we propose giving, was born and educated in the neighborhood of Edinburgh, where the greater number of his relatives yet reside. When he became of age he went to England, but not succeeding in business as well as he wished he resolved to settle in Ireland, where a branch of the family had emigrated some years before. He returned to Scotland, married a young lady of his early acquaintance, by the name of Ann Morrow, and immediately set sail for Londonderry, in the neighborhood of which he settled, and took charge of a large estate belonging to the father of General Montgomery, who fell at Quebec, and afterward to Lord Beresford, where he lived to an old age, enjoying the confidence and friendship of all who knew him, leaving six children: John, James, George, Peter, Thomas and Ann, who married a gentleman by the name of Ross. He procured for his eldest son John an office in the English navy, who was lost by the sinking of the Royal George. The American Revolution produced a great change in the feelings and sentiments of the people of Ireland—thousands of them openly advocating the cause of American independence. James Brown, the father of the subject of these memoirs, in his zeal for

the success of the American arms, used language toward the crown and ministry of England that greatly displeased the loyal party, and fears were entertained by his father lest a prosecution should grow out of what he called the indiscretion of his son. At the close of the Revolution, James Brown associated with those who looked to the emancipation of Ireland, but finding the Protestant population greatly divided on the subject, he resolved to emigrate to America. Before leaving Ireland he married a young lady by the name of Rachel Hawthorn, who had several brothers who had been in America, and who had returned home with a view of aiding in a revolution in Ireland, or of inducing their family to emigrate to the United States. In the autumn of 1789, James Brown and his wife's family sailed from Londonderry for Philadelphia, where they all safely landed, and in the Spring following removed to Northwestern Virginia, and settled in that portion of Monongalia County which now forms the County of Preston; and Mr. Brown purchased land in the neighborhood called "Dunkard Bottom," where he lived until the year 1838, when he died at the age of seventy-seven years. He raised a family of five sons and two daughters: John C., who died on the paternal estate in April, 1852; Robert, Joseph, William G., Thomas, Jane and Anne M., who married Hon. Elisha M. Hagans. Jane married a gentleman by the name of Bowen, who settled in Wisconsin.

William G. Brown, the fourth son, was born September 25, 1800. He had the benefit of such schooling as the country then afforded, being nothing more than a good English education. He was remarkable for his fondness of reading; and his father having a pretty good miscellaneous library, at the age of twenty years he was well read in history and biography. Having learned that his father was a connection of the mother of Robert Burns, he felt inclined to cultivate his poetical capacity, which, however, not promising much either of fame or fortune, he at once determined on studying the law. In the Summer of 1822 he went to Parkersburg, where he had the benefit of the instructions and libraries of the late Oliver Phelps and Joseph H. Samuels, Esq., now of Shenandoah, Virginia.

In the Spring of 1823, Mr. Brown came to the bar, and settled in Preston County. He soon gave evidence of a high order of intellect, and gained for himself a widespread reputation as a profound lawyer and successful advocate.

In 1824, 1828 and 1832, he supported Andrew Jackson for the Presidency, and contributed in no small degree to the popularity of that great man in the counties of Monongalia and Preston, in which he then practiced as a lawyer.



*Mr. G. Brown*



In 1832 he was elected to the General Assembly of Virginia, and in the stormy session of that year he acted with those who condemned the rash course of South Carolina in her ordinance of nullification. Although Mr. Brown was a strict "States rights man" of the Virginia school, and condemned in the proclamation all that seemed to favor centralism in the Federal Government, yet he denied that the friends and supporters of nullification did justice to the President in their construction of that instrument, and he was greatly relieved from his embarrassment, when the authorized explanations appeared in the official paper at Washington.

Mr. Brown prosecuted his profession very successfully until the Spring of 1840, when the Whig party became so formidable in Virginia, that his political friends called for his services in the Legislature of the State, where he distinguished himself for three years in succession as a bold and skillful leader of his party, and as a sound and prudent legislator. The popularity of Mr. Brown in his own county is shown by his having in 1843 been returned a delegate to the General Assembly without opposition.

In the memorable campaign of 1844, Mr. Brown was appointed an assistant elector for the Seventeenth Electoral District, and in canvassing his district soon acquired a reputation as a popular speaker, that induced calls for him in all the considerable popular meetings throughout Northwestern Virginia and the southwestern counties of Pennsylvania.

In the Spring of 1845, he was nominated for Congress, and elected over his Whig competitor by an unprecedented majority. In the controversy with England with regard to the Oregon boundary, Mr. Brown claimed for the United States the parallel of 54 degrees 40 minutes as her northern boundary, and voted against the resolution passed by Congress, showing the willingness of that body for the Government to compromise on the parallel of 49 degrees. He has been frequently heard to say that it was an imprudent "backing out" of the administration and its friends. Mr. Brown warmly supported the war with Mexico, voted for all the supplies called for by the executive, and advocated at all times a vigorous prosecution of the war as the cheapest and best way of terminating the controversy.

In the Spring of 1847, Mr. Brown was again returned to Congress without any regular opposition. He soon after gave notice to his constituents that he wished to retire from public life at the close of Mr. Polk's administration.

He was not, however, long allowed to rest from his public services, and in the Fall of 1850 he was returned a delegate to the Virginia Constitutional Convention, where he fully sustained his reputation for tact and ability. The long session and difficult and perplexing questions discussed and settled

by the convention tended much to strengthen the inclination of Mr. Brown to quit public life.

It was in the defense of persons charged with high crimes that he most distinguished himself as a lawyer. In the power of persuasion he had few superiors. Many instances could be given where he cleared his clients to the utter astonishment of all, save those who heard the defense.

The innocent always found in him a fast friend and a successful advocate; and even the guilty, when they could bring strong mitigating circumstances to their aid, could generally get, through the powers of his eloquence and skill, the benefit of a legal defense and the pardoning power applied at the same time, resulting in a verdict of acquittal. A case is given, in 1838, of a young man by the name of Lawrence, who was arrested for passing counterfeit banknotes. In consequence of a great deal of spurious money having got into circulation about that time, the bank officers were active in arresting, prosecuting and testifying against persons accused of being engaged in such practices. The accused was very young, prepossessing in appearance, and engaging in his manners and address. Owing to what Mr. Brown thought an over-officiousness in some of the agents and officers of the banks, as well as the favorable impression produced by the appearance and address of the prisoner, he took a deep interest in the young stranger. A rumor had gone abroad that they had in jail a monstrous offender, and a great crowd attended his trial. The evidence against the accused did not come up to the expectations of the prosecutors, yet it was probably sufficient to have warranted a conviction. After arguing with great power and skill in favor of the innocence of his client, Mr. Brown availed himself of the youth and fine appearance of the young man; and, seizing hold of the strong prejudices then existing against the suspension of the banks of the country, the prisoner was acquitted without the least hesitation, amidst the shouts (which no power of the court could suppress) of the delighted crowd, who rushed to meet the prisoner in the courtyard to congratulate him on his deliverance from a foul and unfounded prosecution; and some of the principal witnesses and actors in the prosecution found themselves in more danger from the indignation raised against them than the prisoner had ever been of legal punishment.

In his domestic relations Mr. Brown was very happily situated. He was twice married. His first wife was a daughter of Charles Byrne, Esq., a lady who won for herself the love and affection of all who made her acquaintance. She died in the Spring of 1851, whilst Mr. Brown was in the convention.

In 1855, he married Margaret Paterson, third daughter of Mathew Gay, of Monongalia County, who came from Tyrone County, Ireland, in 1799, to Monongalia County, to succeed to the estate of his uncle, William McCleery, a lawyer, who had accumulated a large fortune in lands in North-western Virginia. "After his arrival young Gay early set about the work of learning the manners and business habits of the people of his new home, and, having determined to cast his lot with them, commenced the study of the law in his uncle's office; and, after a sufficiently lengthy residence in the country, on the 12th of June, 1805, renounced his allegiance to King George III., and became a naturalized citizen of the United States. In 1807, having obtained the legal certificate of residence and good character, Mr. Gay set out on his journey on horseback to Richmond, the capital of the State, to be examined by three of the Judges of the General Court of Virginia. On this journey he tarried over night at the house of Alexander Smith, of Alexander, on the North Branch of the Potomac River, and saw, for the first time, the little blue-eyed girl who, just fifteen years afterward, became his wife. Having procured the signatures of the Judges, Mr. Gay returned to Morgantown and entered upon the successful practice of his profession, which he practiced until a few years before his death—a period of nearly half a century."\* The lady who became Mr. Gay's wife was Margaret, the daughter of Alexander Smith, of Alexander, just referred to, who moved from Prince George's County, Maryland, and settled in the Allegheny Mountains, at what is now known as Fort Pendleton, West Virginia, early in the century. His wife's name was . . . . ., whose mother was a Bowie, one of the Bowie family of Maryland. At the time of Mr. Gay's marriage, there were no stores nearer to where his intended bride lived than at Hagerstown, Maryland, a town of considerable activity for that day, more than a hundred miles away, and from which place it was necessary for the young lady to obtain her trousseau. Being desirous of making her own selection of apparel for so important an occasion, she, with the spirit and daring that marked the times, braved the bridgeless streams and pathless mountains by making the trip to Hagerstown and return on horseback.

By his second marriage, Mr. Brown had one representative of his name, William G. Brown, Jr., mentioned elsewhere in this volume, who was born April 7, 1856.

From the time of the death of his first wife, during his attendance on the convention of 1851, he voluntarily retired from politics and applied

\*History of Monongalia County.

himself exclusively to the practice of the law; with great success for the next ten years.

The exciting times just preceding the Civil War again brought Mr. Brown prominently into politics. He was now in the prime of his intellectual manhood. He was selected as a delegate to the National Democratic Convention, which met at Charleston, South Carolina, April 23, 1860. He was a Douglas Democrat, and met with the convention which adjourned to meet at Baltimore on the 18th of the following June. He was made an elector and gave Douglas an earnest support during the campaign in his section of the State.

He was next a delegate to the Virginia convention of 1861, in which he was made a conspicuous character by the peculiarly able stand he took against the passage of the Ordinance of Secession. The convention "was a remarkable body of men. Never, perhaps, in the history of the State, had a body assembled in which there was such an array of talent." On the roll of members were the names of such men as Henry A. Wise, Sherrard Clemens, Waitman T. Willey, John S. Carlisle, Jubal A. Early, A. H. H. Stewart, W. Baldwin Preston, and many others no less prominent in the Commonwealth's history. The floor of the convention was a great battlefield upon which giant intellects struggled for the mastery. Every member was at his post, and the discussions were conducted with an acrimony unsurpassed in history. Mr. Brown was hissed while making an eloquent plea for the Union and predicting a terrible war if Virginia seceded; but he remained in the convention opposing the passage of the ordinance, notwithstanding threats of personal violence at the hands of the rabble then collected in Richmond, until the final passage of the ordinance by the convention made his efforts, in this direction, no longer necessary. After the final vote had been taken he was approached by his intimate personal friend, Jubal A. Early, who advised him to return to his home without delay. Mr. Brown was not inclined to this advice, thinking that something might yet be done to keep Virginia in the Union and avert the impending conflict. Mr. Early, who had opposed the passage of the ordinance, now, with tears in his eyes, while advising his old friend to seek his safety, said that all had been done that could be done—that he could not desert his State, and he went with Virginia.

Mr. Brown, after meeting with many obstacles and traveling a circuitous route, arrived at home. On his way returning he was met with the news of his nomination for Congress, and he was elected. In 1863 he was elected to the Thirty-eighth Congress, representing the new State of West Virginia, in the formation of which he had taken such a leading part.



He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of West Virginia, which held its sessions at Charleston in 1871-2.\* He was elected to the Legislature of West Virginia, in August, 1872, and served two years. This was the last occasion of Mr. Brown's appearance in public life, and although well advanced in years, he seemed to exert the same active mental vigor of his earlier manhood. For nearly twelve years after this he continued in active practice at the bar, having thus completed sixty years in the successful prosecution of his chosen profession. But life's labors were nearing an end. On the 19th day of April, 1884, after a youthful period of unremitting labor and unconquerable ambition, a middle life of great activity and prominence, and an old age crowned with respect and ripened with honor, he laid down his work. In the cemetery at Kingwood, a beautiful granite shaft now marks the resting place of this illustrious man.

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## WILLIAM G. BROWN, JR.

The subject of this sketch is the only representative of the name of his father, the late Hon. William G. Brown, of Kingwood, Preston County, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this volume, and was born at Kingwood, April 7, 1856. His ancestry were of that class who, by their sterling qualities and marked force of character, have maintained a merited prominence in the history of Northwestern Virginia from the infancy of the Republic to the present day.†

His boyhood was uneventful—averaging well with that of the American boy, always able to take care of himself, yet having time to spare when it was necessary to look after the interests of his weaker friends. He attended the public schools of Kingwood until he was old enough to enter the preparatory department of the West Virginia University, from which institution of learning he received the degree of A. B., in June, 1877, in a class of nine, all of whom have, thus far, become more or less distinguished in life.

After his graduation Mr. Brown returned to his home and entered upon

\*The engraving here given is made from a photograph of Mr. Brown, taken while he was a member of this convention.

†See sketch of William G. Brown.

the study of the law in his father's office, and was admitted to the bar October 12, 1878. He entered immediately upon the active duties of his profession, and having formed a co-partnership with his father, under the firm name of Brown & Son, he was engaged on one side or the other of the most important cases tried in our courts. In 1882, Joseph H. Hawthorne became a member of the firm, and the business was conducted under the firm name of Browns & Hawthorne, until the death of the senior member of the firm in April, 1884. From that time, until shortly before Mr. Hawthorne's removal to Kansas City, Missouri, in 1886, the firm was known as Brown & Hawthorne. After the dissolution of this firm Mr. Brown continued the practice alone until April 1, 1893, when he formed a co-partnership with Henry Clay Hyde, under the firm name of Brown & Hyde, which firm still exists and conducts an important practice at Kingwood.

Mr. Brown is one of the busiest of men. His business interests are vast and varied, and none of them escape his personal supervision and inspection. There are but few details entrusted to other hands, and even where this is the case, the work thus done must stand the test of the search-light that is sure to be placed upon it. He is the owner of a large amount of real estate in Preston and adjoining counties, and being possessed of an ample fortune he is enabled to fully gratify his tastes in the direction of agriculture and stock-raising. In tilling the soil he adopts the best known means of cultivation, obtaining the maximum results, and has demonstrated the fact that farming in Preston County can be made highly profitable. His favorite farm, "Fairfax Manor," two miles from Kingwood, is the model farm of Preston County, and by reason of its productiveness and neatness is the cynosure of all passing eyes. In stock-raising he believes in the best blood, and by being largely interested in the importation of blooded stock, has done more than any other man in the county to advance the interests of stock-raisers in this respect.

Mr. Brown was one of the incorporators of the Tunnelton, Kingwood & Fairchance Railroad, and to the deep interest he took in the business is largely due the success of the company and the final building and completion of the road. He was the first treasurer of the road, its president once, and its vice-president up to the time of the sale of the road to a syndicate on the 31st day of December, 1894. In Mr. Brown's long connection with the management of the road, he always advocated the best possible service at the minimum cost to the public.

While Mr. Brown's interest in all these things is more than the ordinary, requiring a great deal of his time and attention, they all stand subordinate

to the fondness he has for his profession, and the interest he takes in public affairs.

As a lawyer, Mr. Brown has always been successful, and opposing counsel have always regarded him as "inconveniently adroit." In his argument of cases before juries he has no superior at his native bar. His oratory is not of the style born of the tempest, but live and animating in its character, and the force of his reasoning and the purity of his diction mark his genius and talent as a scholar and lawyer. He regards the law as an exact science and esteems it as an enlightened and liberal profession inculcating upon the part of its members the principles of truth and justice, and thus is he guided in its practice. He has never been known to forsake a principle on account of public opinion, or leave a client without counsel because he was poor.

Mr. Brown is one of the most generous of men. He has assisted a number of deserving young men through college, and has aided many others over business difficulties. There are many who can trace the beginning of a successful business or professional career to his timely assistance. Being possessed of a liberal estate, he has not buried his talents, or placed his light under a bushel. The poor find in him a helping friend, and every enterprise a willing supporter, and as a man enlisted in every cause for the advancement of his county and the progress of her people, he stands pre-eminently in the front rank.

Politically, Mr. Brown was reared and educated a Democrat, and he still adheres to the principles of that party. While he has never sought political preferment, his figure is a familiar one in the councils of his party. He attended the last three National Democratic Conventions. He has been frequently urged to become a candidate for Congress, by his many friends, but has as frequently declined—giving way for the nomination of those whom he thought it was the best policy for his party to nominate. In 1886, the party of his county nominated him for the Legislature. His party being largely in the minority in the county, he naturally predicted defeat, but for the purpose of party organization he made the race, speaking at every public place in the county to large audiences, and it was thought by many that he would be elected. But his prominence and popularity were not sufficient to overcome conditions brought about by partisan leaders, when the crack of the party whip is more powerful than logic, and certain classes lose their sense of independence and manly obligation. Although Mr. Brown ran far ahead of his ticket, the election resulted in his defeat and the people's loss.

Not yet forty, it cannot be said that Mr. Brown has reached the zenith of his usefulness. Judging from his qualifications, and his success in the past,

there is much in store for him—at the bar and in public life. His splendid mental and physical manhood predict for him many years of usefulness and prominence.

Mr. Brown was married December 23, 1883, to Miss Jessie Thomas, of Tyrone, Pa. She died March 15, 1886, leaving Mr. Brown a daughter, Jessie Thomas, born February 1, 1886.

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## PETER W. ASH.

To till the soil so that the occupation will be profitable it is necessary that a man should be intelligent, progressive and energetic, and these very necessary and useful qualities are among the chief characteristics of Peter W. Ash. He is a native of Harrison County, born in 1849, and is a son of Isaac P. R. and Sarah (Harbert) Ash, who were also born in Harrison County, in 1827 and 1832, respectively. The mother died in January, 1887, having long been a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Isaac P. R. Ash has spent his entire life in this county, has been an industrious and progressive farmer and a useful citizen in every worthy particular. He held the office of Township Treasurer for some years, but has never been called an official aspirant, he merely discharged the duties that were imposed upon him to the best of his ability. His father, Peter Ash, was born in Pennsylvania, but when four years old was brought by his parents to Harrison County, Virginia, and here spent ninety years on Gregory's Run, dying on the fine farm which he had improved from its primitive state. His wife died at the age of eighty-six, having borne him thirteen children. Adam Ash, the great-grandfather, was born, reared and married in Germany and his first child was born while on the ocean voyage to America. They resided in Pennsylvania for a few years, then were among the first to settle in Harrison County, where the rest of their lives were spent. The maternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, David Harbert, was of Irish origin, but was born in Harrison County, where his entire life was spent in tilling the soil and in peddling books. His father, John Harbert, was a pioneer of the county.

Peter W. Ash was the eldest of the following children: Martha, wife of Lafayette J. Allen; David, a Methodist minister of Grafton, and presiding

elder of Morgantown district, West Virginia, conference; and Louisa, wife of Henry A. Swiger. Mr. Ash was reared on the farm on which he now lives, and obtained a fair education in the subscription schools which were in vogue at that time. In 1870, he led to the altar Miss Missouri, daughter of Martin and Catherine Fittro, natives and life-long residents of Harrison County. The father was a worthy tiller of the soil and died in 1887. His father, Joseph Fittro, was one of the pioneers of this county, but later in life moved to Ohio, where he died. Mrs. Ash's mother is still living. She was born in this county and her union with Mr. Ash has resulted in the birth of the following children: Georgie, Lillie E., Allie, Foster D. and Mattie Pearl. Sarah Catherine died at the age of nine years. Mr. Ash is the owner of 103 acres of land and has a comfortable and pleasant home. He has been president of the Board of Education, is a member of the Junior Order of American Mechanics, Sardis Council No. 109. He and his wife are members of the Methodist church and politically he is a Republican. His father's brothers and sisters were: Mary Susannah, wife of Joseph Hammond; Catherine, wife of Alfred Rogers; Henrietta, wife of Joseph Shinn, of Indiana; Sophia, wife of Lemuel Harbert, of Gilmer County, West Virginia; Jemimah, the deceased wife of William McGathern, of Iowa, and Daniel.

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## J. E. HALL.

Barbour County, West Virginia, has its full quota of vigorous, enterprising, thorough-going citizens, whose popularity is based upon both their social qualities and their well-known integrity and unusual industry. None among them is more popular or has worked more perseveringly than he of whom we write. He was born in this county, November 27, 1841, a son of John N. and Harriet (Rightmire) Hall and grandson of Samuel Hall, all natives of old Virginia. The first member of the family came thither from England about 1745, and in the Halls of the present day there is also a vein of French blood, for the great-grandmother came of Huguenot stock. Samuel Hall was one of the first settlers of Barbour County, here tilled the soil successfully, and at the same time filled the office of Sheriff and other minor offices. His son, John N., followed in his footsteps and became a farmer and stock raiser, and for a number of years was Presiding Justice of this

county. He and his wife were born in the same year, 1815, are still living on the farm on which they settled soon after their marriage, and since their youthful days have been worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and their house has always been open to ministers who came to this region. Mrs. Hall is a daughter of John Rightmire, a pioneer merchant of this section, who brought his goods from Baltimore by wagons, the journey there and back with a train of teams often occupying two months. He was also a farmer. The children born to John N. Hall and wife were: Julia, Allie J., wife of J. N. B. Crim; Emma I., wife of Colonel N. J. Coplin, of Clarksburg, West Virginia; J. E. and Jasper L., who died at Santa Fe, New Mexico. J. E. Hall, the subject of this sketch, was married to Miss Lizzie Wilson and they have one daughter, Lillie, wife of C. F. Teter, a prominent attorney of Philippi, by whom she has three children. Mr. Hall was reared to a knowledge of farming and stock-raising, and his first knowledge of the world of books was acquired under private tutors at home, after which he took a course in Morgantown Academy and had just entered Virginia University when the war came up. He at once became a votary of Mars, and in 1861 became a member of the Thirty-first West Virginia Infantry under "Stonewall" Jackson, as a private, soon after which he took part in the Second Battle of Bull Run. After the reorganization of the army he was made Regimental Adjutant, and participated in nearly all the engagements of Jackson's command, up to Gettysburg, where he was wounded in the knee by a grape shot and captured. He was taken to Fort McHenry, thence to Fort Delaware and from there to Point Lookout. He was captured July 5, 1863, and was exchanged March 1, 1865, soon after which he returned to his command and was in the retreat to Appomattox and was with Lee at the time of the surrender. He was then paroled and returned home to once more take up the duties of civil life and to recuperate his health and fortune. With his father he was engaged in farming and buying and selling cattle until 1869, then married and began an independent career on a place of his own. His estate now comprises 330 acres and under his able management is one of the best improved places in the county. He remained on the farm until 1878, when he moved to Philippi and became one of the chief promoters of the Grafton & Belington Railroad, and was its manager for over five years. It was then merged into the Baltimore & Ohio road, but he is still one of its directors and holds stock in it. He is one of the promoters of the Point Pleasant, Buckhannon & Tygart's Valley road, upon which work has commenced, and he is also interested in the Roaring Creek & Charleston road, and the Tygart's Valley Mineral & Oil Company. He is

actively interested in all public affairs as the above account shows, and although he has filled some minor positions and is a staunch Democrat, the most of his attention has been devoted to his private interests and he has been quite extensively engaged in handling stock. His wife is a daughter of Lewis Wilson, who was born in Randolph County, West Virginia, October 18, 1818, and spent his boyhood on a farm and in a blacksmith shop. In 1839 he went to Wisconsin to prospect for lead, but returned in 1841 and soon after settled in Barbour County. His father had purchased the land on which the Town of Philippi now stands, had put up a mill thereon and in this mill Lewis Wilson began working. May 20, 1844, he married and settled in a house on the site of his present residence, and here discharged the duties of Deputy Surveyor, his father having been elected to the position of Surveyor, and the Town of Philippi was laid out by them. Before the bridge was built across the river Mr. Wilson ran the ferry and about 1852 he was appointed Surveyor and was re-elected by the people at the end of that term, serving in all seven years. He was elected County Clerk in 1843, filled this position nineteen years and at various times held minor offices. In 1881 he was elected to the State Legislature, in which honorable body he served two terms, served two years as Deputy Internal Revenue Collector and as County Commissioner for several years. After his old mill had about worn out he built a new mill, with a carding machine attached, which mill is operated by water power, and he is still engaged in carding although practically retired from other business pursuits. He owns considerable wild land, an excellent farm and a commodious and comfortable residence. His parents, William F. and Jane (Booth) Wilson, were Virginians and his grandparents, William and —— (Friend) Wilson, came from Ireland. While the older Wilsons were farmers, William F. Wilson was a blacksmith as well. He held various official positions in this and Randolph Counties and died here in 1857. The Booths were of English descent and Daniel Booth, grandfather of Lewis Wilson, died while serving in the War of 1812. To William F. Wilson were born the following children: Isaiah, who died in this county in the fall of 1893; Anna M., wife of John M. Corley; Lewis Albert, who died of yellow fever in Louisiana; Alpheus P., who died here about 1890; Daniel served as Captain in the Federal army during the war and died in Michigan; Sarah J., who resides in Philippi; Reason B. died in New York City, a practicing physician, in 1865, and Eugenius died in this county. Lewis Wilson married Miss Ann M. Keys, a daughter of Alexander and Rachel Keys, farmers of this State, and to them three children were born: Thomas A., who died in Texas, left a wife

and two children; Elizabeth M. is the wife of J. E. Hall, and Jane, who died at the age of three years. The mother of these children died in February, 1884, a worthy member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Wilson was reared a Whig and is now a stanch Republican.

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## GRANVILLE AUSTIN NEWLON, M. D.

A live and progressive citizen is Dr. G. A. Newlon, and much of the prosperity of Buckhannon is due to his zeal, push and enterprise. He was born in Beverly, Virginia (now West Virginia), in 1838, the eldest of six children born to Charles W. and Christina M. (Earle) Newlon, natives, respectively, of Culpeper and Randolph, Virginia. James Newlon was born in Fredericksburg, Maryland, and his father, William Newlon, was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The first member of the family in this country came thither from Ireland in 1686 and settled in Pennsylvania. James Newlon removed with his father to Hampshire County, Virginia, when a small boy, later located in Culpeper County, was married in Loudoun County and finally moved to Taylor County, where he died at the ripe old age of eighty-three years, having passed the useful and independent life of the farmer. He was a soldier in the War of 1812. The maternal grandfather, Archibald Earle, was a Jefferson County Virginian, of English descent, and also came of an old and prominent colonial family. Charles W. Newlon was reared in Culpeper County, and while making a trip from the eastern part of the State to Taylor County, he passed through Randolph County, where he married Miss Earle, and in 1839 located in Pruntytown, Taylor County, where he soon engaged in merchandising, his associate in business being John Warder. After a number of years he gave up this business and was elected Clerk of the County Court, which office he held one term of six years. Following this he was twice elected to represent Taylor County in the State Legislature at Richmond, and was later elected to the State Senate from the district comprising Taylor, Preston, Marion and Monongalia Counties, and filled this responsible office one term with such marked ability that he was re-elected in 1860. When the war came up he espoused the cause of the Confederacy and furthered her interests by every means in his power in the State Senate of Virginia during the continu-



ance of hostilities. He then returned to Taylor County, and after settling up his business there he went to Texas, where he remained one year. At the end of this time he again returned to Taylor County, and while pursuing a prosperous business was twice elected to the position of Mayor. He was finally again elected to the State Senate, this time from Taylor, Barbour, Tucker, Randolph, Upshur and Lewis Counties, and soon after the completion of this term he moved to Buckhannon and assumed the duties of cashier of the Buckhannon Bank, which office he was filling at the time of his death. He was a member of the Baptist Church and an excellent business man. Dr. G. A. Newlon was a student at Rector College, Pruntytown, and when that institution was burned attended a select school at Fairmont, under George W. Kidwell. In 1858 he began the study of medicine under Dr. A. S. Warder, attended lectures at Jefferson College in the winter of 1859-60; in the latter part of 1860 took a medical course at Richmond, after which he located in West Milford, Harrison County, West Virginia, and began practicing. When the war opened soon after he moved to Buckhannon, and in June of the following year went South and was appointed Surgeon of the Thirteenth Battalion of Artillery, Longstreet's Corps, with which he served until the close of the war. After the war he located for the practice of his profession in Burnersville, Barbour County, but at the end of one year came to Buckhannon and here was engaged in relieving the pains and ailments to which the human body is heir, for thirteen years. During this time he purchased land and became a large stock raiser, and at the same time dealt extensively in city property. In 1881 he became an active promoter of the railroad from Weston and one of the directors and stockholders, and has continued to retain these positions up to the present time. In the same year he was the organizer of the Buckhannon River Lumber Company, with mills at Buckhannon, which company at the same time operated other mills in the county. Prior to the extension of the railroad south of Buckhannon, the company built a tram-road up the river for fourteen miles and for the eight or nine years that Dr. Newlon was the general manager of the company did a very large business. On the extension of the railroad the company sold its tram-road franchise to the road and also their plant and timber lands, and the doctor then severed his connection with the company. With Dr. Kunst and Senator Camden the doctor located and organized the Town of Newlon and later he organized the Town of Hampton alone. Also about this time he organized the French Creek & Little Kanawha Railroad Company, commencing at the Town of Hampton and extending up French Creek and Little Kanawha to Bodkin's Springs. Three

and one-half miles were completed and steps are now being taken to complete the line. At about this time the Buckhannon Land Trust Association was organized and in 1891 Dr. Newlon took active charge of the business, at which time the company bought \$60,000 worth of land near town, laid it off in city lots and sold the greater part, paying all indebtedness in two years, from this sale of real estate. This association was the means of increasing the population of the town from 800 in 1891 to 3,000 in 1895, and of establishing several industrial plants. Dr. Newlon was the originator and one of the largest stockholders of the Electric Light Plant and of the Buckhannon Bank, being first a director, then cashier and finally president of the latter, which position he is now holding. While practicing his profession he also conducted a drug store, but has since given his attention to other occupations. Besides owning several farms he owns a number of houses and lots in town and is well fixed financially. Socially he is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. Although he has never desired public office he has been a member of the Town Council and served two terms as Mayor. He was married September 2, 1860, to Miss Ann E. Hathaway, of Virginia, a daughter of Francis Hathaway, a member of one of the early families of this State. To the doctor and his wife seven children have been given: Lena T., wife of O. A. McCormick, of Fort Worth, Texas; Ella V. H., wife of W. H. Fisher, an attorney of Buckhannon; Joseph A., a merchant and postmaster at Hampton; Jonathan J., Charles A., Daisy B., wife of C. A. Sandford, of Fort Worth, Texas, and Dearing. The doctor and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. The public spirit which has ever animated him is shown in the above sketch, and with truth it may be said that there is not a man in the county who has done more to build up and improve the county than has he. His friends are legion and he is universally respected.

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## HENRY H. WHEELER.

The petty difficulties, which have involved the citizens of the section in which Mr. Wheeler lives, have been adjusted by him for the past thirty years, and in this capacity of Justice of the Peace he has at all times been fearless, fair and conscientious. The calling of the "peace-maker" has not

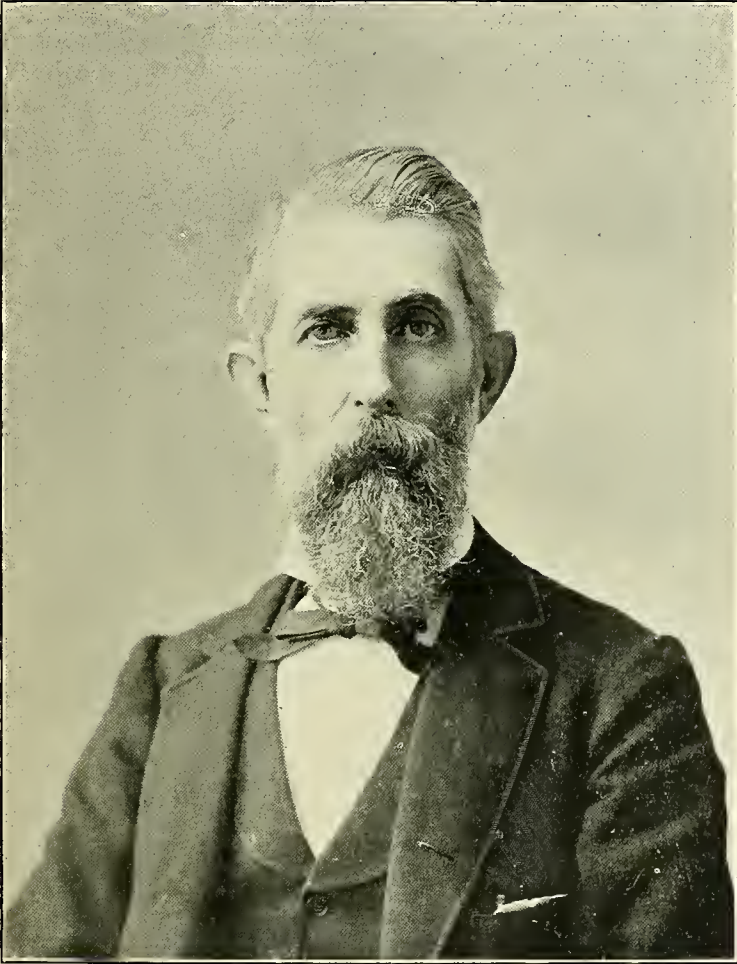
been his only occupation, however, for, for the past thirteen years, he has been a prosperous business man of Rowlesburgh, actively engaged in the occupation of undertaking and the furniture business. He was born in Preston County, February 14, 1827, a son of William Wheeler and grandson of John Wheeler, who was born in Maryland of English parents, soon after the arrival of the latter to the New World. He removed to Preston County, West Virginia, in 1804, and in the vicinity of Aurora followed his trade of carpentering. His son, William, grew to manhood in this county, learned the carpenter and joiner's trade of his father, and followed that occupation during the most active years of his life. He served for about twenty years as Justice of the Peace near Aurora, but the last years of his life were spent at Reedsville, where he died about 1885, at the age of eighty-six years. His wife died about 1883. H. H. Wheeler grew to manhood in the county of his birth, being the third of ten children born to his parents, three of whom are now deceased. He followed in the footsteps of his father and grandfather and became a carpenter, and his early life was devoted to this occupation. After locating in Rowlesburgh, in 1852, he followed his trade here for many years, and many of the business houses and residences of this section are the result of his handiwork. In 1882, he engaged in his present business, which he has found quite profitable. Since 1861 he has been identified with the Republican party, but was formerly a Jacksonian Democrat. He has taken quite an active part in local politics and the first official position to which he was elected was that of Justice of the Peace, in 1865, a position he has since held. In 1892, he was appointed notary public. He has also served as Mayor of Rowlesburgh, as a member of the City Council, and has been a delegate to various county and congressional conventions. He was married near Saint George, Tucker County, West Virginia, June 17, 1847, to Miss Mary Bonafield, a daughter of Gregg Bonafield. Ten children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler, eight of whom are living: Columbia A., married and is now dead; Lloyd A., also died after reaching mature years; Charles W. is married and resides in Rowlesburgh; Mollie is the proprietress of a dry goods and notion store in Rowlesburgh; Charlotte S.; Edward A. is married and is engaged in contracting and building in San Francisco, California; Sherman T. is the night express agent of Grafton, West Virginia, and is married; Lillie is the wife of D. W. Hardesty, of Rowlesburgh, and Della Gertrude. Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler and their daughters are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Rowlesburgh, and socially he is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He is a man of good business capacity, of tried integrity and he and his

family are very highly respected. From October, 1861, until November, 1864, he served as a member of Company F, Sixth West Virginia Volunteer Infantry, and was stationed the most of the time on guard and scouting duty at Rowlesburgh.

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## JOHN DAVIS, DECEASED.

This sketch of John Davis is a tribute to the memory of a man whose noble and honorable life was an example to all. The monument which his children or friends may erect to his memory in the cemetery will crumble into dust and pass away; but his life, his achievements, the work he has accomplished, which otherwise would be forgotten, are perpetuated by a record of this kind. Mr. Davis was born in Woodstock, Shenandoah County, Virginia, on the 11th day of July, 1797, and was of English origin on the paternal side, his great-grandfather having been a native of that country. Caleb Davis, the father of John, was born in Maryland and inherited English and Welsh blood on both the paternal and maternal sides of the house. The Davis family came to this country about the time of the Revolution and some of its representatives took part in the war, one holding the rank of Colonel in the British army. John Davis was one of two sons and five daughters, four of whom, Rebecca, Rezin, Ann and Minerva, lived to be quite aged. He was too young to serve in the War of 1812 and while growing up learned the saddler's trade, which he followed for the most part of his entire life. He was possessed of more than ordinary intelligence and unusual business acumen, and his judgment was sound and discriminating. In personal appearance he was a very fine-looking man, urbane and courteous in his manner, dignified without reserve, and easily approached by his friends and acquaintances with whom he was very popular. Mr. Davis' first marriage occurred in Virginia, but this wife lived but one year and he married again, taking for his second wife Miss Eliza A. Steen, daughter of James and Jane (Small) Steen, who came from the North of Ireland, and were Scotch-Irish Presbyterians. Mr. and Mrs. Davis passed many years in Harrison County, where, prior to her marriage, she was one of the early teachers of the same, and was a lady of culture and of more than ordinary mental endowments and intelligence. Both died here, the former November 9, 1863, aged sixty-six years and four months, and the latter, May 10,



*Mr. J. Davis*



1866, aged sixty-six years, ten months and twenty-three days. Of their seven children only four reached mature years. Mary C. and Sarah E. died young. Jane S. grew up, married A. B. Thorn, and died two weeks after this union; John J., Rezin C., who was Judge of the Circuit Court, appointed by Governor Buckner to fill the vacancy caused by the death of William L. Jackson, is a very prominent attorney of Louisville, Kentucky. He takes a deep interest in all public enterprises of moment and for several years was a member of the Board of Directors of the House of Refuge. He served in the Confederate army during the Civil War as a private in Captain McNeil's Cavalry. Anna is the wife of Rev. R. A. Blackford, a Presbyterian minister, and they now reside in the State of New York; and William O., who died when five years old. The father of these children was at one time an old line Whig in politics, but later he became an earnest advocate of Democratic principles. He was sheriff of Harrison County for some time, also held the office of Justice of the Peace for many years, and was well and favorably-known all over the county. He owned a farm of several hundred acres and considerable town property. His fourth child, John J. Davis, was born in Clarksburg, May 5, 1835, and received his early scholastic training under the direction of his mother. Later he entered the Northwestern Virginia Academy and left that school in 1854 or '55, after having completed the curriculum of the ordinary college of that day. After this and when but seventeen years old he began the study of law under the Hon. George H. Lee, under whose direction he pursued his studies for one year. He then spent two years under the Hon. John W. Brockenbrough, who had charge of a law school at Lexington, Virginia, and which has since become the Law School of Washington and Lee University. He was admitted to the bar before he was twenty-one years old, and began the practice of his profession in 1854 at Clarksburg, and his career from that time on has been eminently successful. He is painstaking and exact in the preparation of a case, simple and laconic in his statement of facts and clear and logical in his deductions. Conspicuous in the long roll of eminent names that have conferred honor upon the legal profession in West Virginia is Mr. Davis. He was a member of the Legislature in 1861, and again in 1870, and was the first Democrat to carry his county after the war. He was elected to the Forty-second Congress as a Democrat, carrying his district by a majority of over 1,200, his competitor being the Hon. Nathan Goff, now Judge of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals. He was also elected to the Forty-third Congress by a majority of over 600 votes. He has led the battle for tariff reform in his State, and for more

than twenty years has been the uncompromising opponent of the protective tariff system. He is a strict constructionist and a "States right Democrat," and holds to the belief that the perpetuity of our institutions, the liberties of the people, and the integrity of the Federal Union depend on a rigid adherence to the Constitution.

It is the lot of but few men to attain the high position of honor and distinction that the subject of this sketch has attained; with him success in life has been reached by his sterling qualities of mind and heart, true to every manly principle. He was mentioned for Vice-President by Hon. Alexander H. Stephens in his paper published at Atlanta in 1872, and has been the recipient of other honors from his friends which marks the esteem in which he is held. Mr. Davis was for several years a member of the Board of Directors of the Hospital for the Insane, and was appointed a member of the Board of Visitors of West Point by President Cleveland. Mr. Davis' wife was formerly Miss Anna Kennedy, daughter of W. W. Kennedy, of Baltimore, where Mrs. Davis was born. Mr. Kennedy was a lumber merchant of that city. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have four living children: Lillie, the wife of John A. Preston, Esq., of Lewisburg, West Virginia; Emma, Anna H. and John W., who has recently graduated in law and is now associated with his father in practice. Mr. Davis lost two daughters, both small. Our subject and wife attend the Presbyterian Church, in which they both hold membership, and of which Mr. Davis is a ruling elder. He has been active both in law and politics, was thrice a Presidential Elector, the last time being when Cleveland first ran for the Presidency. He was a delegate to the Democratic Convention in 1868 that nominated Horatio Seymour; to the convention of 1876 at St. Louis that nominated Samuel J. Tilden, and the Chicago Convention in 1892 that nominated Grover Cleveland.

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## J. H. HURRY.

This gentleman is a native of Monongalia County, West Virginia. Here he was reared, educated and resided, his life being an uneventful one until the outbreak of the Civil War, when he espoused the cause of the Confederacy, and did his whole duty as a soldier. Since the war he has been variously employed, reasonable success attending his efforts. In 1865 he was united



in marriage with Miss Anna C. Wisman, of Monongalia County, and for some years they have resided in Harrison County. Mr. Hurry is of a retiring disposition, avoiding everything in the way of display and ostentation. He and wife are worthy members of society.

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## J. S. MITCHELL.

This gentleman is the able and competent Secretary and Superintendent of the Weston Electric Light Company. He was born in Washington County, Maryland, in 1853, the son of Benjamin and Eleanor (Stillwell) Mitchell, who were natives of England and Pennsylvania, respectively. The father came to this country in 1840 and settled in Maryland. He was a boat-builder by trade, but has been retired from business for some time and is still residing in Pennsylvania. J. S. Mitchell was reared in Hancock, Maryland, attended the schools of that place, where he acquired a good practical education, and while he was growing up he worked with his father at boat-building, only leaving this work after he had attained his majority. In 1881 he came to Weston, West Virginia, and here he obtained employment in the hospital as watchman, a position he continued to hold for nine years. During this time he began the study of electricity and put in the telephones in the building. In 1889 he organized the present company, of which he is a Director, Secretary and Superintendent—the Weston Electric Light Company—and all parts of the present plant were constructed under his instruction. The first plant was erected in 1889 at a cost of \$7,600, but in July, 1893, it burned to the ground, but was soon rebuilt. A fine 40x60 brick building was erected, with 1,100 incandescent lights, thirty arc lights and the engine is a 136 horse-power. The present capital stock of the company is \$18,000. This plant is very perfectly equipped and arranged, and without doubt is one of the very best in the State, a fact which is due to his earnest efforts. He was married in 1875 in Cumberland, Maryland, to Miss Clara M. Johnson, a native of Maryland, and a daughter of John F. Johnson, an old and prominent merchant of that city. To this union four children were born: Phoebe E., a teacher in the academy of this place; John B., a clerk in the National Exchange Bank; James A. and Clara Beulah. Mr. Mitchell is a member in good standing of the Ancient Free and Accepted

Masons, the Knights of Pythias, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Uniformed Rank of Knights of Pythias. He is a man of unblemished reputation, a good and public-spirited citizen and accordingly has many and warm friends.

Being an uncompromising Democrat, he has until recent years taken an active part in politics, but decided that strict attention to business brings better returns, both financially and in friendships.

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## WILLIAM P. FOWKS.

This substantial and enterprising gentleman is the efficient agent for the West Virginia & Pittsburgh Railroad at Buckhannon. He was born in Clarksburg in 1848, the fifth of six children born to Richard and Sarah E. (Hite) Fowks, natives respectively of Kentucky and West Virginia. William Fowks, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, came thither from Germany with his father's family during the colonial period and made a location in Virginia, but at an early day removed from that State to Kentucky. He was married in Virginia to a Miss Bartlett, and after their removal to Kentucky a son was born to them (the father of William P. Fowks), on the site of Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, while the family were keeping the Indians, who had attacked them, at bay. The maternal grandfather, John Hite, was one of the first permanent settlers of Harrison County, Virginia. Richard Fowks spent his youth in Kentucky and from that State enlisted under General W. H. Harrison in the War of 1812. He was in many of the battles enacted on the frontier, the most important of which was the Thames, where the Indian Chief, Tecumseh, is supposed to have been killed. About 1830, he came to what is now Clarksburg, West Virginia, and here engaged in tanning hides, but after serving as Sheriff of Harrison County for four years, he and a cousin, a Mr. Bartlett, engaged in the general mercantile business. In 1851, his establishment was burned, but he resumed business later. For a time this firm was one of the largest in the place, and the proprietors were successful from a financial standpoint. In 1861, Mr. Fowks became quartermaster of the Third West Virginia Infantry, United States of America, and was with this regiment for over one year. Later he was elected Sheriff of Harrison County, then became Postmaster of Clarksburg, and was serving

in that office at the time of his death in 1865, at the age of seventy-two years. He was an active and prominent man, was a useful citizen and was universally respected. In 1861 he was offered the United States Marshalship by President Lincoln, but respectfully declined the office, owing to his advanced years, and for thirty years he served as crier for the United States Court at Clarksburg. His wife died in 1862. In the Town of Clarksburg, William P. Fowks was reared and educated and at the age of sixteen years he began working on a farm. In 1875, he became a clerk at Clarksburg for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and after filling this position for eight years he came to Buckhannon with the first train of cars, and June 11, 1883, took charge of the office. Since that time he has had charge of all the affairs of the railroad at this point, is accurate and reliable, and is a thoroughly trusted employe. He is active in the affairs of his section, is a stockholder in the Buckhannon Improvement Company, is a charter member of the Washington Building and Loan Association, of which he is vice-president, and is the present treasurer of the Buckhannon Building and Loan Association. He has been quite active politically, labors faithfully for the success of the Republican party, has been a delegate to State and county conventions, and would undoubtedly make a faithful public servant if elected to any office. He was married April 28, 1868, to Miss M. L. Fittroe, a native of Harrison County, and a daughter of Samuel Fittroe, who settled there at an early period. They have five children: Susan M., Richard L., Estella, Russell and Walter. Mr. Fowks is a Knight of Pythias and an Odd Fellow.

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## DR. WILLIAM M. DENT.

The profession of the physician and surgeon is one that has drawn to it, at all periods of its history, the brightest and most honorable of men; for none but an enterprising and well-informed man could be a physician at all, and no physician not wholly respected could long retain a good practice. Dr. William M. Dent, one of the active and successful physicians and surgeons of Northwest Virginia, has been practicing his profession at Newburg for a third of a century. He was born in what is now West Virginia, Monongalia County, March 6, 1831, son of Dr. Marmaduke Dent, who was born in the same county in 1802. The grandfather, Captain John Dent, came to Monongalia County as early as 1775, and the great-grand-

father on the grandmother's side, Colonel John Evans, moved to Monongalia County in 1773 and was one of the first settlers of that locality. Captain John Dent served in the Revolution under Colonel John Evans, his father-in-law. Later he became Sheriff of Monongalia County, but in connection was engaged in farming, becoming the owner of a large amount of land. He served in the Legislature two terms and was a very influential man. His son, Dr. Marmaduke Dent, was reared in his native county, and after securing a fair education in the common schools, studied medicine with Dr. Enos Daugherty. In 1825, he settled at Kingwood, Preston County, and two years later was married to Miss Sarah Price, daughter of Colonel William Price, and a half-sister of General Sterling Price. Later he returned to Monongalia County and resumed his practice there, and in adjoining counties, and there passed the remainder of his days, dying February 10, 1883, at the advanced age of eighty-two years. His wife survives him and is a hale old lady of eighty-six. Dr. William M. Dent was second in order of birth of eight children. The eldest child, M. M. Dent, is a prominent attorney of Morgantown, West Virginia; Margaret L. is the widow of Hon. F. M. Chalfant; John Evans Dent held a number of prominent positions in Monongalia County and died there March 14, 1863; Dr. G. W. Dent, carries on a successful practice in Monongalia County; Dr. Felix J. Dent, of Paola, Florida; James E. Dent, a business man of Monongalia County, and Sarah V., wife of Thomas P. Reay, of Morgantown. Our subject, Dr. W. M. Dent, supplemented a common-school education by attending Monongalia Academy, and in 1848 was appointed a cadet at West Point. He was a classmate of Generals Sheridan and Schofield and attended that renowned institution for two years, then resigning on account of ill-health. The study of medicine next attracted his attention and after studying for some time, he entered Starling Medical College, from which he graduated in 1852. After this he practiced for six years with his father at Granville, and on the 25th of March, 1852, married Miss Harriet Jane Hess, who was born in Monongalia County and whose father, B. Hess, was one of the pioneers of that county. Her grandfather, David Scott, was a soldier in the War of 1812. Mr. and Mrs. Dent are the parents of three children: Nellie G., wife of William B. Annan, who is now deceased; Frank M. Dent is a physician, surgeon and druggist, and resides in Newburg, and Marmaduke Evans Dent is now general manager of Newbold & Noys Delivery Company, Washington, D. C. Our subject settled in Newburg in 1863, and has practiced his profession most successfully since, in this and adjoining counties. For years he has been surgeon for the Baltimore & Ohio road and a member

of the Railway Surgical Association; also of the State Medical Society, in which he served as secretary, vice-president and president. He is one of the original founders of that society. The doctor is also a member of the American Medical Association and in 1884 was elected a delegate to all foreign medical societies of that year. In 1888 he was made Postmaster, under President Cleveland, served four years, and again in 1893 was appointed to that position. He has twice been the nominee of his party for the Assembly and also for the Senate, and a member of the Democratic State Committee for twelve years. For the past thirty years he has been a delegate to State conventions, and for the same length of time has been on the County Executive Committee. Socially the doctor is a member of the Masonic order and the Odd Fellows order, being the oldest Odd Fellow of Preston County. Dr. and Mrs. Dent are members of the Baptist Church. Dr. Dent served two terms as Mayor of Newburg and one year as a member of the Council. He is a man of strong convictions upon all the leading issues of the day, and has the courage to voice his sentiments when the occasion demands it.

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## ALBERT I. SHINN.

One of the most necessary articles to the neat and orderly housewife is the broom, and she is invariably careful in the selection of this household utensil, therefore it behooves the manufacturer of brooms to make the best within his power, to make various kinds and to use the best appliances in the manufacture of his goods. In this most necessary business Albert I. Shinn has for many years been engaged and he has proven himself the thorough master of his trade. He was born in Harrison County, West Virginia, December 6, 1842, to Elisha and Mary E. (Lafevre) Shinn, the former of whom was born in Harrison County, West Virginia, also, and by occupation was a cabinet-maker and farmer, but did not live his allotted years, for his death occurred at the untimely age of twenty-eight years. The name of his father was Moses Shinn. The immediate subject of this sketch spent his boyhood days on his father's farm, but unfortunately did not enjoy the advantages of much schooling, for he was obliged to engage in farm work at an early age, owing to the early death of his father, and continued thus to aid in the support of his widowed mother until the year 1861, when his

patriotism became thoroughly aroused and he enlisted in the Union army, becoming a member of Company E, Third Virginia, as a private, and was mustered out of the service on the 17th of August, 1864. The principal engagements in which he participated were: McDowell, which occurred in May 8, 1862, and being quite severely wounded three times in this engagement, he was given a furlough of three months, which he spent at home. After rejoining his regiment he took part in the engagement of Cedar Mountain, was then in the engagement on the Rappahannock, during which time he was under fire for fourteen days; the Second Battle of Bull Run, where he was slightly wounded; the engagement at Rocky Gap, near Sulphur Springs, Virginia; Droop Mountain; the Salem Raid, near the Tennessee line, one of the most hazardous raids of the war, for which the Government showed its appreciation by presenting each member of the brigade with a new uniform. After being mustered out of the service at the close of the war, Mr. Shinn returned home and engaged in the lumber and grist mill business, which he continued with reasonable success for seventeen years, then turned his attention to the manufacture of brooms, in which he has done well. His goods are popular, for they are well made and durable, and those with whom he has business dealings find him an admirable business man, for he is always to be relied upon and his goods are just as he represents them. On the 10th of September, 1865, he was married to Miss Louise V. Martin, a daughter of Charles Martin, a farmer of this section, and by their upright mode of living and owing to their numerous worthy personal attributes, their friends are legion.

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## FATHER D. O'CONNOR.

This worthy man and able divine was born in Canada, March 27, 1833, a son of Bernard and Sarah (McLaughlin) O'Connor, both of whom were natives of the isle of Erin, and came to America in 1830. For ten years succeeding their arrival in the New World, their home continued to be in Canada, at the end of which time they removed to Maryland, and for a time made their home on the Potomac River, in Morgan County. Later they removed to Mt. Savage, Alleghany County, Maryland (about 1846), and there the father died in 1880 at an advanced age, the mother's death

occurring about 1875. They reared three children: Rose, who died about 1883, was the wife of P. Gallagher; the subject of this sketch, and Sarah, who died in 1890, the wife of Thomas Murphy. When Father D. O'Connor had attained a suitable age he was placed in the common schools, which he continued to attend until 1848, when he entered St. Charles College, Maryland, and later the St. Mary's Seminary, of Baltimore, Maryland. He next entered St. Vincent's Seminary, of Wheeling, West Virginia, and finally entered Mt. St. Mary's Institution, of Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1857, and there remained until 1859. He was ordained a priest September 4 of that year, and was assistant pastor of the Catholic church at Parkersburg, West Virginia, for about one and a half years. In March, 1861, he accepted the Clarksburg and Weston parish and three years later located in the former place, where his home has since continued to be. Father O'Connor is one of the best known men in Clarksburg, and his fatherly kindness, his benevolence, and his interest in those about him, have made him beloved and respected by all, while not only those of his flock, but others whose religious views are diametrically opposed to his own, consult him on various questions, for his practical common sense is well known. In personal appearance he is decidedly prepossessing and is genial and social in disposition and a man of undoubted intellect. He has always been a staunch Democrat in politics, keeps well posted in the current affairs of the day and his views on popular topics are sound and reasonable. He has wielded a wide influence for good since coming to Clarksburg and it has been through his efforts that the Catholic churches at Pennsborough, West Union, Long Run, Clarksburg and Monongalia were erected, and it was through his persistent efforts that the Catholic school at Clarksburg was founded. He is the pastor of the churches which he erected, and is greatly beloved and respected by his flock.

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## JUDGE WILLIAM T. ICE.

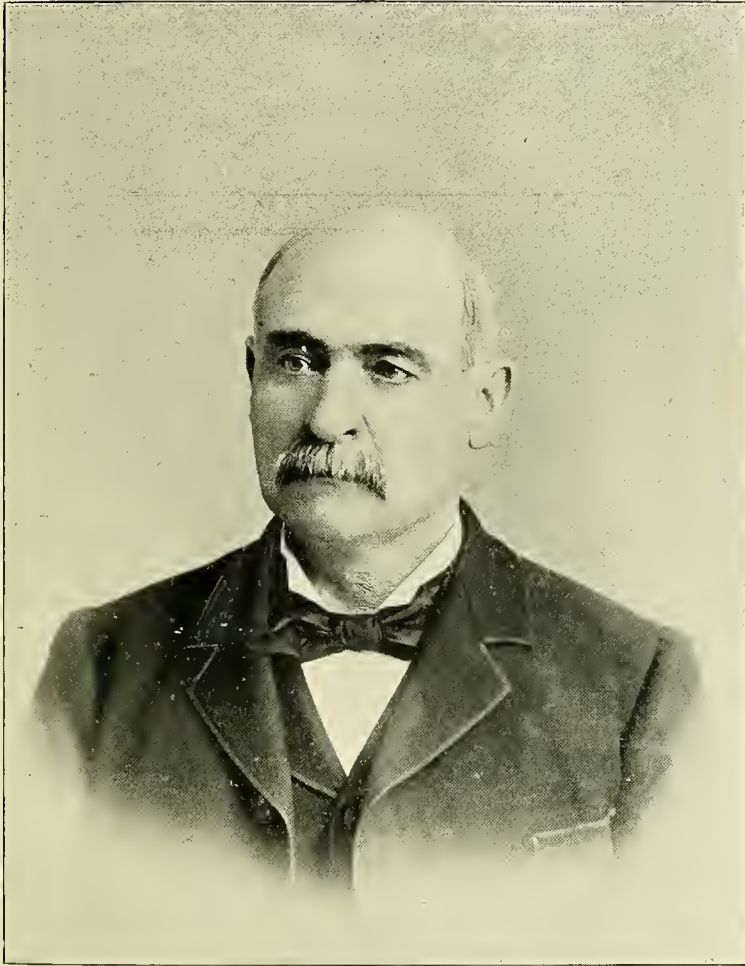
In reviewing the various professional interests of Barbour County, West Virginia, the name of William T. Ice cannot be ignored, for he is one of her most successful legal lights and for eight years was the able Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit. Although it is a known fact that, given the ordinary average education and good judgment, any man may make a success in the

avenues of trade, yet in the profession of law he must be endowed with superior intelligence and have gone through years of careful study and training to be able to cope with the brilliant minds which do honor to the bench and bar.

William T. Ice is a man of well-known ability, and one who is an ornament to the profession. He was born in Marion County, West Virginia, March 9, 1840, a son of Andrew and Elizabeth (Alexander) Ice. The family came to this country from England and the paternal great-great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch settled in Marion County, West Virginia (then Virginia), at a time when the Indians were very numerous and hostile and he did his full share in helping to settle the country and drive the Indians farther westward. He followed farming as most of his descendants did. The Alexanders were of Scotch descent, settled in Culpeper County, Virginia, during its early history and were merchants as well as farmers. In 1848, the mother of Judge Ice was called from this life and his father died in February, 1885, an earnest member of the Christian Church. The youth and early manhood of Judge William T. Ice were spent in laboring on the home farm and in obtaining such knowledge of the "world of books" as the country schools afforded. When he had attained the age of twenty years he began reading law with Fonton Smith, continuing until March, 1864, when he was admitted to the bar of Marion County. He soon after opened an office in Philippi and early acquired a wide reputation for far more than average ability and legal acumen. He now practices in all the courts of the State, and has filled various responsible official positions. In 1866, he was elected Prosecuting Attorney of the county, a position he held six years; in 1875, he was elected to the State Legislature, in which honorable body he served two terms, and in 1880 he was made Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit, composed of the counties of Barbour, Taylor, Preston, Tucker and Randolph, but upon retiring from the bench at the end of eight years he returned to the practice of his profession. In addition to this he has not been idle in other respects, for he has speculated to a considerable extent in lands, and is still the owner of a number of town lots and an improved farm adjoining the town of Philippi, and valuable timber lands in the County of Randolph. He owns a handsome residence and a well-fitted office in said town and has an abundance of this world's goods.

He was married in 1866 to Miss Columbia Jarvis, a daughter of Solomon Jarvis of Barbour County. He was of German descent, a minister of the Baptist Church and died in 1852. The union of Judge and Mrs. Ice has resulted in the birth of seven children: Lizzie B., at home; Robert B.,





W. S. Lee



who died in June, 1880; Maggie J., at home; William T., Jr., who is attending the West Virginia University; Nellie M., Grace and Columbia V.

Mrs. Ice is still living and she and the Judge are members of the Missionary Baptist Church.

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## HON. JAMES LITTLE.

He whose name heads this sketch is not only a gentleman in every sense of the word, but, as a business man, is shrewd, practical and far-seeing, well-qualified to discharge the necessary duties of life, and well adapted to the active life he has led. He has lived within eight miles of Piedmont, West Virginia, since 1854 (across the river in Maryland), but has long been one of the foremost business men of this place. The Old World has given to this country some of her most worthy sons and daughters, and prominent among these is Mr. Little, who was born in the land of "thistles and heather," at Sterlingshire, August 26, 1840. His father, James Little, Sr., was also born in Scotland, there reached manhood and married, but about 1860 came to the United States and joined his son at Piedmont. Two years later he enlisted in the First West Virginia Infantry and was killed the same year in an engagement near Winchester, Virginia. His son, James, brought his remains to Piedmont, and he was buried in the cemetery at this place. His widow passed from life in 1865. Until he was fourteen years of age, James Little continued to reside in the land of his birth, but at that time he left the shelter of the parental roof and took passage in a sailing vessel for the New World, of which he had heard flattering accounts. After a voyage of seven weeks, during which time some severe weather was encountered, he landed at Philadelphia, on the 26th of May, 1854, with but 50 cents in his pocket, a child of fourteen years and a stranger in a strange land. He remained but a few days in the City of Brotherly Love, and informed by a coal merchant there of a Scotch settlement near Piedmont, and advised to make his way there, which advice he followed. After considerable difficulty he reached Piedmont, to find it a hamlet of three houses and not a store of any kind in the place. He then made his way to the Scotch settlement across the river in Maryland and at Barton he secured employment in the coal mines, of which work he had previously acquired some knowledge in Scotland. Here he remained faithfully at work, prudently

saved his earnings and by 1860 had acquired sufficient means to pay the passage of his parents to this country. In 1868, so thorough a knowledge of the business had he acquired that he was made superintendent of the mines of the Maryland Coal Company, a position he filled with satisfaction up to 1881. During his early life in Maryland, while he worked in the mines during the Summer months, he attended school during the Winter, for he was desirous of obtaining an education, and he had received no advantage in this respect in Scotland. His intelligence, sound judgment, and business ability soon manifested themselves. In 1882, he moved to Piedmont to enter upon the duties of superintendent of the Elk Garden Coal Company, but after having charge of the mines for about six months he resigned. He was then appointed superintendent of the Big Vein Coal Company, of which he has since had charge, and he is without doubt the oldest coal man in point of practical experience in Eastern West Virginia, or Western Maryland, having been actively engaged in the mining business near Piedmont for forty-one years. In addition to this work, Mr. Little has also devoted considerable attention to agriculture, and is the owner of an excellent farm of 300 acres a few miles from Piedmont, in Alleghany County, Maryland. The place is well-improved and valuable and for some ten years past Mr. Little has been its owner. Upon the organization of the Davis Bank, Mr. Little became a stockholder, and later was one of the prime movers in establishing the First National Bank of Piedmont, of which he became a stockholder and director. He also has stock in the Cumberland National Bank. Mr. Little purchased the ground on which his present home is situated in Piedmont, erected thereon a neat and substantial residence and has gathered about him many comforts and a large circle of friends. He was married in Cumberland, Maryland, in 1863, to Miss Jennie Stuart, a native of Scotland, but who was reared and educated in Maryland and a daughter of John Stuart, who settled at Frostburg, Maryland, and there passed from life. The Stuarts are now among the prominent families of Frostburg. Four children were born to this union and two children were adopted. The oldest, James Little, Jr., was adopted when an infant, was reared and educated by Mr. Little, now resides at Frostburg, Maryland, and is interested with his father in the mines of the Big Vein Coal Company. Mr. Little's own son, John S., is also married and resides at Frostburg, Maryland. He is his father's clerk. The next, William C., is at home. The daughters are Maggie M., wife of Fred Fredloch, a contractor and builder, of Westernport, Maryland, and Minnie, a young woman, at home. The children are all well educated and the daughters are graduates of the Female

College, of Winchester, Virginia. Mr. Little is a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he is a Knight Templar, and is a member of Cumberland Chapter and Commandery. He also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he is Past Grand. Mr. Little commenced life for himself in the New World in very humble circumstances, as has been stated, and for the admirable manner in which he has bent the force of circumstances to his will, and for the eminent success which he has achieved, he deserves the utmost credit. His career has also proven the fine opportunities afforded a young man who has his own career to carve out, in this broad and free land of ours, no matter what his nationality may be. His good name has ever been above reproach and his numerous sterling characteristics have won him the liking of all with whom he has come in contact.

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## MARTIN L. CRANE.

The success which has attended the efforts of Mr. Crane in the various occupations to which his attention has been given is by no means a matter of chance, nor was he in any sense an especial favorite of fortune, for when he started out in life for himself he began near the bottom of the ladder. In his case fortune smiled upon him as an agriculturist and as a citizen simply because of his untiring efforts, his close and intelligent application to his duties, and his uprightness and honesty, which would bring success under any circumstances and in any field of labor. Mr. Crane was born in Preston County, West Virginia, April 5, 1840, to Calvin Crane, who was also born in this county, August 5, 1805. The paternal grandfather, Samuel Crane, was one of the pioneer settlers of this section, coming thither from New Jersey. He opened up a farm in Pleasant district and was also engaged in the milling business on Muddy Creek, and in both occupations was rewarded with success. He was a soldier in the War of 1812-14 against Great Britain. Calvin Crane was reared on his father's farm and upon arriving at manhood was married here to Miss Jane Elliott, a native of this county, and a daughter of Abram Elliott, another of the honored old settlers of this section. He engaged in the milling business, being quite extensively engaged in the manufacture of lumber. He was also a successful farmer and accumulated a comfortable competency, and was therefore

enabled to live in comfort and ease during the last years of his life, his death occurring in 1885, at the advanced age of eighty-one years. His wife's death occurred about four months earlier. Martin L. Crane was one of the five sons and four daughters that grew to maturity: Josephus E. is a farmer of this county; Jarvis is deceased; Samuel B. is also a farmer of this section; Martin L., John C. tills the soil successfully in this section; Louisa is the wife of S. J. Poston, of Terra Alta; Mary A. is the wife of J. F. Wotring, of Ogden Center, Mich.; Elizabeth is the wife of Peter L. Crane, who tills the old Crane homestead, and Ruth, who is the wife of Rev. A. S. Bomgardner, a minister of the Evangelical Church. Rachel and Isaac died in early childhood. The youthful days of Martin L. Crane were spent in Preston County on the home farm, with but few advantages for acquiring an education. Upon the opening of the Civil War he joined the Union forces in August, 1862, becoming a member of Company B, Fourteenth West Virginia Infantry, and served until receiving his discharge, July, 1865. Two years of this time he served as a wagoner and then as Corporal, and participated in a number of engagements, being taken prisoner at Cloud Mountain, while on detail to help bury the dead. He was taken to Andersonville and spent about seven months in that foul pen, being paroled in December, 1864. For about two months thereafter he was in the hospital at Annapolis and was then for a month or more in the hospital at Columbus, Ohio. He was then returned to Annapolis, but never recovered from the hardships and privations he endured in Andersonville sufficiently to re-enter the service and was finally honorably discharged at Cumberland and mustered out at Wheeling. He then returned home and was not actively engaged in any business for several years owing to ill-health. On the 17th of January, 1867, he was married in this county to Miss M. J. Smith, who was born and reared here, a daughter of Jacob Smith, also a native of this county, of which his father was one of the pioneers from Pennsylvania and of German descent. To Mr. and Mrs. Crane four children have been born: Clay is married and engaged in farming on the old home farm; Smith, who died at the age of twenty-two years; Greeley, who resides in Terra Alta, and Lulu Ruth, who is still in school. After his marriage, Mr. Crane settled on a farm in Pleasant district, near Lenox, and for over a quarter of a century was one of the active and progressive agriculturists and stock raisers of that county. When his means enabled him to do so he retired from this business, purchased an excellent residence property in Terra Alta, and moved thither in the Fall of 1894. He has been a Republican all his life and his first Presidential vote was cast for Abraham

Lincoln, while a prisoner at Andersonville, in 1864. So in reality his first vote was cast for General U. S. Grant, in 1868. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Grand Army of the Republic, of Terra Alta. He is a man of excellent business capacity, upright in character, kind and generous in disposition and has many friends throughout this and adjoining counties.

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## G. W. CURTIN.

In the beautiful and modern homes of the present day, all kinds of woods are brought into requisition, from the coarsest and cheapest to the finest, most rare, costly and most beautifully and highly polished. Owing to this fact the successful lumber manufacturer and dealer must keep a large and select stock of goods on hand or his patronage will slowly but surely leave. The Pardee-Curtin Lumber Company, of which G. W. Curtin is a member, has built up a large connection which is continually growing and increasing, a fact which speaks well as to the quality and quantity of the goods, as well as to the proprietors' honorable manner of conducting their affairs. Pardee comes of a well-known and prominent Pennsylvania family, which is largely interested in the various valuable anthracite coal mines of the Keystone State, as well as in the lumbering business of West Virginia, besides many paying enterprises in the South; in fact, they are progressive, wideawake and enterprising people. G. W. Curtin possesses his share of the family push. He was born in Clinton County, Pennsylvania, January 25, 1843, was reared at Lock Haven, and while a boy was given the advantages of the common schools in the vicinity of his home, but the most of his education has been self-acquired since coming to mature years by contact with the business world. In 1861, when about eighteen years of age, his patriotism found a natural channel in the Federal service, and being a member of the Seventh Pennsylvania Reserves he was, with his company, assigned to the Army of the Potomac, with which he continued until the war closed. He experienced some very hard service, and in 1864, at the battle of the Wilderness he was captured with others and was taken to the South, where he was kept a prisoner in several different places until he finally reached the notorious pen—Andersonville—where he was confined for several months.

Finally, on a special exchange, he was released, and while on his way to rejoin his command, he heard of General Lee's surrender. Upon his return home he was compelled to rely upon his own resources for a livelihood, and with characteristic energy and ambition it was not long before he was profitably engaged in the lumbering business and booming on the Susquehanna River, where he pushed his work until 1873. He then took up his residence at Grafton, West Virginia, where he built a boom and saw mill on Valley River, well and completely fitted up, which has turned out about 5,000,000 feet of lumber annually. For a time the business was conducted under the style of G. W. Curtin & Co., but in 1891 the name was changed to Pardee-Curtin Lumber Company, and is such at the present time. The firm handle all kinds of lumber, but have made a specialty of poplar, oak and ash, and since the above mentioned date their plant has been located at Sutton on Elk River, where they have built boom piers and have a double band saw mill, in connection with which is a planing mill. They handle from 10,000,000 to 12,000,000 feet of lumber annually and their logs are mainly brought down the Elk River and tributaries. Much of their product is sold in the New England States and in New York, Maryland and Pennsylvania, but they also frequently ship large consignments to the West. Theirs is one of the largest lumbering establishments in the State and, if the truth were known, it could hardly be anything else with the progressive men it has at its head. In addition to this business, Mr. Curtin owns an interest in a general mercantile establishment at Sutton, besides the interest he has in the store conducted and owned by the mill company. He has erected near the mill a commodious two-story frame dwelling-house, neatly and tastefully finished and very conveniently arranged, and the location of which is exceptionally picturesque and beautiful. In the Fall of 1865, he was married in Pennsylvania to Miss S. F. Sterns, a daughter of Harmon Sterns, a farmer of Clinton County, Pennsylvania, and their union has resulted in the birth of one son, Harry B., who is married and the father of three children. He is located at Grafton, and is connected with the Pardee-Curtin Lumber Company. G. W. Curtin is a member of the Masonic fraternity, is a strong advocate of Republican principles, takes an active interest in all public affairs, but has never aspired to office, although he has on various occasions been urged to accept the nomination for honorable positions in the State. The political arena has no charms for him, while the field of commerce has, and he has therefore steadily declined to have his name go before the convention for any office whatsoever. He is in every sense of the word a self-made man and the architect of his own for-



tune. From a penniless soldier boy just home from a hard service he made his way to the rough life of a river log-boomer and from that on to his present enviable position of a wealthy lumber manufacturer and man of affairs. He is deserving of the highest esteem and the universal respect which is accorded him is but his just due.

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## A. BROOKS FLEMING.

This prominent citizen of the State of West Virginia owes his nativity to what is now Marion County, West Virginia, his birth occurring October 15, 1839. His parents were Benjamin F. and Rhoda (Brooks) Fleming, the latter the daughter of Rev. Asa Brooks. Governor Fleming was familiar with farm life until he was eighteen years of age, during which time he was an attendant of the common schools, but at that time he began teaching school, as a means to an end, and in 1859 entered the Law Department of the University of Virginia, which he attended for some time, after which he again engaged in pedagogic labors at Glenville. In 1862 he returned to his native town of Fairmont, and here his home has ever since continued to be. In 1868 he entered upon a very successful legal career, which he continued until he was elevated to the bench. In 1872, he was elected to the House of Representatives and while a member of that body was prominent on the judiciary and other committees, so much so that he was re-elected to the office in 1875, and in every respect fulfilled the expectations of his constituents. He took a conspicuous part in all the deliberations of that body, was chairman of the Committee on Taxation and Finance, and in various other ways showed that he was a man of thought and action. Upon the death of Hon. Charles S. Lewis, January, 1878, he was appointed Judge by Governor Matthews to fill the vacancy of the Second Circuit and at the next general election was chosen to fill the unexpired term. In October, 1880, his ability was rewarded and he was elected to this office for a full term of eight years, and distinguished himself on the bench. In August, 1888, he was nominated for Governor of the State of West Virginia and in order to enter upon the duties of this responsible office, he resigned his judgeship on the 1st of September. In his contest for Governor he was opposed by General Nathan Goff, the Republican candidate, and in the election that followed the Repub-

licans claimed a majority of 110 votes for General Goff. The Democratic Executive Committee requested Judge Fleming to contest on the ground of illegal voting, which he did and three members of the House and two of the Senate were appointed to make an investigation, which resulted in the seating in the executive chair of Judge Fleming, and he served his State with ability and to his credit. For some years he has been largely interested in coal mining, and being a man of excellent business qualifications he has made a success of his undertakings. September 7, 1865, he was married to Carrie M. Watson, a daughter of his father's esteemed neighbor, James O. Watson.

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## REV. DR. DOUGLAS F. FORREST.

This able and distinguished rector of the Episcopal Church of Clarksburg, West Virginia, is a native of Baltimore, Maryland. His father, French Forrest, was a flag officer of the United States navy and was commander of the Brazil Squadron in 1855-6. Flag Officer Forrest was born in the District of Columbia in 1796, and was sixteen years of age when the War of 1812 opened. He at once entered the United States navy, took part in several engagements, and served the interests of the United States faithfully until the war closed. He became a Midshipman June 9, 1811, a Lieutenant March 5, 1817, a Commander February 9, 1837, was made Captain March 30, 1844, and resigned from the service of the Union April 19, 1861. After the close of the War of 1812 he was placed in command of the Paraguay expedition, was in the Algerian and Mexican Wars, and attained to the rank of Flag Officer, which is (being interpreted) Admiral in the United States navy, which office he resigned to enter the Confederate navy. In the War of 1812 he distinguished himself on Lake Erie when only seventeen years of age, and in 1813 in the action between the *Hornet* and the *Peacock*. In the Mexican War he was Adjutant-General of the land and naval forces, and at the time of secession of Virginia from the Union he was at the head of the navy of Virginia, being commissioned Flag Officer and Commander-in-Chief, and assumed command of the Norfolk navyyard, which he captured. Later he had charge of the James River Squadron and was Acting Assistant Secretary of the South Carolina navy when the war closed. He owned a fine

estate near Washington, D. C., which was confiscated, the cases of Forrest against Moulder and Forrest vs. Bigelow being leading cases in confiscation in Supreme Court of United States. He died in 1866 at Georgetown. He was of English lineage, and is descended from Thomas Forrest, whose wife was the first gentlewoman to come to Virginia, or indeed, for that matter, to America. Rev. Dr. Forrest was given exceptionally fine educational advantages in his youth, and was fortunate enough to graduate with honors from Yale College, and with the honors of Final Orator and Final Editor from the Law Department of the University of Virginia. He was examined for admittance to the bar by Chief Justice Allen, of Virginia, and Justices Moncure and Robertson of the Court of Appeals, and was admitted to practice just before the opening of the Civil War, in 1860. In April, 1861, he enlisted in the Seventeenth Virginia Regiment of Infantry, was made Second Lieutenant of his company, and was on the staff of General Trimble at Evansport and volunteer aide to Buchanan on board the Merrimac when it engaged in battle in Hampton Roads. He accepted the position of Paymaster in the Confederate navy the second year of the war, was sent to Wilmington and was ordered with a detail of officers on board the Margaret and Jessie, a blockade runner, which was wrecked by a Union vessel. He succeeded in reaching an island on which he remained for some time. He, after many adventures, joined his ship, which was at a European port, and at the close of the war ran the blockade into Galveston harbor in the face of all iron clads. He was twice bearer of dispatches—both to Mason and Slidell, and from them. After the war he returned home a paroled prisoner by the way of Houston, Texas, and New Orleans, and began the practice of law in Baltimore, Maryland. His partner was Joseph Packard and the firm became favorably known as Forrest & Packard. In 1871, he made a trip to Egypt and the Holy Land and, while in Jerusalem, he made up his mind to become a minister of the Gospel, and upon his return to this country pursued his theological studies at the Theological Seminary of Virginia, and graduated from this institution in 1873. The old college of William and Mary conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon him in 1879. He was a member of the Congress of Authors which met at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1876, and inaugurated the Centennial. For four and a-half years he had charge of Trinity Church of Washington, D. C., later of Calvary Church, Clifton, Cincinnati, but since the 21st of March, 1892, he has been the rector of the Episcopal Church at Clarksburg. His wife was formerly Miss Sally Winston Rutherford, of Richmond, Virginia, and a member of one of the F. F. V's. Doctor Forrest is quite an extensive traveler and has

made four trips abroad and has spent many years in foreign countries. He is an exceptionally well-posted man on all topics, particularly in Bible lore, and in discharging his duties as rector of the Episcopal Church, of Clarksburg, he has shown great energy and discriminating judgment.

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## HON. LOUIS BENNETT.

This distinguished son of a distinguished father was born in Weston, Lewis County, West Virginia, November 27, 1849, the second child born to Jonathan McCally and Margaret Elizabeth (Jackson) Bennett, a sketch of whom appears in this work. His early education was obtained in private schools at Weston, West Virginia, and at Richmond and Fredericksburg, Virginia, at which latter place he spent three sessions under the able instruction of Judge Richard Coleman. He then completed his literary course and legal studies in the University of Virginia, graduating in law there in 1871. After this he became the private secretary of Charles S. Lewis, Superintendent of the Free Schools of West Virginia, then a committee clerk in the State Senate, and then principal of the State Normal at Glenville, a position he ably filled three sessions, and resigning it that he might take up his chosen profession. Without consulting him, he was elected and became principal of the High School of Weston for one session, and then entered upon an active and lucrative practice of the law at Weston. In 1880, he was elected Prosecuting Attorney for Lewis County, and again in 1884, holding that office for eight years. In 1890, he was elected to the House of Delegates of West Virginia, as usual leading his ticket, and had the high honor, for one at his first election thereto, of being its speaker during the session of 1891—a position he filled with distinguished ability. Feeling the need of relaxation from his close application to business in 1892, he with his wife took a leisure trip around the world, thoroughly doing all places of interest, and then on his return actively entering into his many affairs with renewed vigor. He has ever been an active politician of the Democratic faith, being repeatedly sent to the conventions of his party, and standing high in its counsels. He is well fixed financially, is the owner of large areas of wild land, and his many cultivated farms are stocked with improved breeds of the best horses, cattle and sheep. He is an educated,



*Louis Bennett*



intelligent and progressive gentleman, and all enterprises of a worthy nature inaugurated in his section have found in him a liberal, influential and hearty supporter. He was married January 16, 1889, to Miss Sally Maxwell, of Wheeling, West Virginia, a daughter of James Maxwell, who was a successful and prominent merchant and banker of that city. Three children have been born to Mr. Bennett and his wife: James Maxwell (deceased), Agra and Louis, Jr. Mr. Bennett is a Knight Templar Mason and has held the principal offices in his lodge. He and his wife are members of the Episcopal Church.

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## HON. WILLIAM C. CARPER.

Nothing is truer than the statement that in this country alone, of all countries on the face of the earth, a man's family connections do not assist him to places of honor and trust. He alone must win his way to fame by his own exertions and by his own honest merit. This has been the experience of Hon. William C. Carper, a prominent lawyer of Buckhannon, who was born in what is now Upshur County (then Lewis), in 1826, the third of six children born to Adam and Jemimah (Currence) Carper, natives of the Old Dominion. The paternal grandfather, Abraham Carper, was born in Reading, Pennsylvania, but moved to Virginia at about the time he attained his majority, and was married in that State to Miss Harness, after which they removed to Upshur County, West Virginia, in 1800, and located within one-half mile of Buckhannon, where the grandfather died at the patriarchal age of ninety-two years. The Carpers are of German descent and the founders of the family in this country settled in Pennsylvania during its colonial history. The maternal grandfather, William Currence, was born in Randolph County, Virginia, and his father was born on the Isle of Erin and was one of the early emigrants to this country, and became a colonial settler of Virginia. He was shot from his horse in Randolph County, Virginia, by Indians, in 1770. He also bore the name of William. Paul Carper, the father of Abraham, was a quartermaster in the army during the Revolution, and died in Reading, Pennsylvania, in 1777. Adam Carper was a farmer of Lewis County all his life. Hon. William C. Carper received his education in the Clarksburg Academy and Allegheny College, Meadville, Pennsylvania, after which he studied law under Judge Brockenbrough, and in 1854

was admitted to the bar. He at once entered upon the practice of his profession in Buckhannon and in 1870 his ability and knowledge of the law were recognized and he was elected to the Senate of West Virginia, and while a member of that body he was chairman of the Judiciary Committee and a member of other important committees, in which he acquitted himself with great credit. In 1855-6 he was a member of the House of Delegates at Richmond, Virginia. He was first married in 1856 to Miss Mary Martha Hutton, a native of Randolph County, Virginia, and her death occurred in 1862. In November of the following year he wedded Mrs. Martha Basell White, a native of Harrison County, West Virginia, and to their union three children have been given: William B., Adam and Alvin B. Mr. Carper is one of the scholarly and polished gentlemen of Buckhannon, is widely read, an eloquent and forcible pleader at the bar and in his home life is kind and considerate. He is in every respect a self-made man, his life has been well spent and he is now enjoying the quietude of semi-retirement after the activity and battles of his early life. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

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## HON. JOHN MARSHALL HAGANS.

This substantial and distinguished citizen of Morgantown, West Virginia, was born in Preston County, Virginia, August 13, 1838, and is descended from Scotch ancestors who settled in New England. His education was obtained in Monongalia Academy, where he received a thorough classical education, after finishing which he began the study of law under Hon. W. T. Willey, at that time the leading lawyer of Morgantown. He remained under the instruction of this gentleman for about one year, then entered Harvard University, and in 1859 he was admitted to the Virginia Bar. He at once opened an office for the practice of the legal profession, in the pursuit of which he has met with distinguished success. In 1862 he was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Monongalia County, was re-elected in 1863-4 and 1870, made an able legislator and carefully looked after the interests of his State and section. In January, 1864, he was appointed by the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia its Reporter, a position he held until March, 1873, and during this time volumes of the leading cases decided



by that court were published under the title of "Hagans' West Virginia Reports." He was Mayor of Morgantown in 1866-7-9 and in 1868 was an elector on the Grant ticket for the Second District. In 1872 he was a member of the convention at Charleston that framed the second Constitution of West Virginia and in 1873 and 1875 he was a member of Congress from the Second District. In 1879 and again in 1887 he was a member of the House of Delegates, and in 1880 he was a delegate to the National Republican Convention that nominated Garfield for the Presidency. In November, 1888, he was elected Judge of his Judicial Circuit for a term of eight years and has filled that position ever since with considerable distinction. In 1860 he was married to Miss Sarah B., daughter of ex-Senator W. T. Willey, and has three children. Judge Hagans is an able jurist, possesses a keen knowledge of men and motives, is a finished and forcible orator and possesses rare social qualifications.

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## J. C. SIMPSON.

The calling of the merchant is an old and honorable line of industry and is a most essential industry. To attain success in this line of human endeavor, a man must be wide awake, enterprising and pushing, and above all it is necessary that he should be honorable in his dealing with his patrons and that his goods should be well chosen, reliable and extensive. In all these essentials, J. C. Simpson is up with the times and the natural sequence is that he has prospered. He was born near Marques, Preston County, West Virginia, July 28, 1853, to David B. and Parmelia (Knotts) Simpson, the former of whom was born in Preston County in 1832, a son of Henry Simpson, a native of the Emerald Isle, and one of the honored first settlers of Preston County. David B. Simpson was reared to a knowledge of farming, but upon starting out in life for himself he engaged in merchandising at Fellowville, where he sold goods for some ten years. He died there in January, 1894, his wife having died a number of years earlier. J. C. Simpson is the eldest of a family of three sons, the next in order of birth being Alpheus, who resides on a farm near Fellowville. The youngest is L. D. C. Simpson, who is a successful business man of Fellowville. J. C. Simpson grew to manhood in this county and had the advantages of the town schools, supplemented by a course at Yale Business College at

New Haven, Conn. After completing the course he returned to Preston County and became the agent of a well-known agricultural implement house, with which he was connected for some five years. He then embarked in the mercantile business, carries a general line of goods and has built up an excellent trade. In 1876, Mr. Simpson took charge of the flouring mill at this place and in addition to his mercantile operations has carried on a grist and flouring mill business all these years, which he has very lately remodeled to full roller process. When the postoffice was established at Marques, Mr. Simpson was made Postmaster, and has made a very efficient official since that time (1888). Mr. Simpson is a Democrat in politics and although he has served as a delegate to various conventions, he has never been an official aspirant, for his business interests have fully occupied his time and attention. He was married here on the 30th of May, 1876, to Miss Jennie Marques, a native of the county, one of his old schoolmates and life-long playmates, and to them five children have been given: William T., who assists his father in the store; Minnie, Ernest, Willie and Charley, who is deceased. Mr. Simpson is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he and his estimable wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They are widely and favorably known and have numerous and warm friends.

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## A. J. REYNOLDS.

In tracing the genealogy of the Reynolds family we find that it sprang from English stock and that its representatives were ever honorable, upright citizens. The first member of this family to settle in America was John Reynolds, the grandfather of our subject, who braved the terrors of the deep and the privations of pioneer life to make a home on this side of the Atlantic. The Revolutionary cloud had passed away at that date and he settled in Winchester, Virginia, where his son, John Reynolds, Jr., father of our subject, first saw the light of day. After reaching mature years the latter, who was of a progressive spirit, decided to seek fields and pastures new, and on the 27th of October, 1795, he came with a wagon drawn by five horses, to Harrison County, West Virginia. It is said that this was the first five-horse team ever seen in Clarksburg. He located five miles north of Clarksburg, on the West Fork River, purchased land and began clearing and improving.

The first day was a memorable one, for about ten or twelve men with guns and axes made their appearance where Mr. Reynolds had decided to locate, and after frightening the women, who at first thought them Indians, proceeded to help Mr. Reynolds build a cabin. The following years were active ones for Mr. Reynolds, who increased the 300 acres first obtained, to over a thousand acres, and who became well-known as a thorough, practical farmer and stock-raiser. In those early days hunting was a great pastime and many a deer and bear did Mr. Reynolds bring down. For many years he held the office of Justice of the Peace and became well-known over the county. He was a married man when he first settled in this county, married to Miss Phillips, who bore him two children: Thomas P., who died some years ago, and Lovey, who married Benjamin Stout, and resided in Bridgeport until her death. After the death of his wife, Mr. Reynolds married Miss Frances Rodgers, a native of Harrison County, and the daughter of Edward Rodgers, who came from East Virginia to West Virginia at an early day and here passed the remainder of his days. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds became the parents of five sons and three daughters, as follows: Lemuel E., who died many years ago; Washington G., also deceased; John W., who is living in Clarksburg; James W., a resident of Texas; A. J., our subject, who was born in Harrison County, West Virginia, September 1, 1824; Harriet P., who was the wife of Ludwell L. Rogers; Lucinda, who was the wife of Thomas Baily, and Frances J., who is the widow of Franklin Maxwell. The mother of these children died about the year 1831, and the father in 1851. Like the majority of farmer boys our subject's early life was passed in assisting his father on the home place and in attending the district school. Later he attended school at Pruntytown, Taylor County, and then started out to fight life's battles for himself. As he had early become familiar with the duties of farm life it was but natural that he should select that as his calling in life. Industrious and persevering it was but the natural consequence of things that he should make a success of life, and although he is now retired from the active duties of life and is residing in Clarksburg, he is the owner of 575 acres north of that city, and personally superintends that tract. He located in Clarksburg in order to educate his children, and has been a resident of the same since 1880. He is one of the leading men of this vicinity and is well-liked by all. In politics he was originally a Whig, but he is now conservative and votes for the man, regardless of party. Mr. Reynolds was married to Miss Lydia E. Gore, a daughter of Truman and Lydia (George) Gore, who came from the eastern part of Virginia to West Virginia in 1842, and located on a farm of about 1,100 acres, which is still

owned by the family. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds have reared four children, but only three are now living: Cora Lee, who died at school when eighteen years old; Frank L., who is engaged on the farm; Clyde, who is in school at Lexington, Kentucky, and Fannie, the baby, who is ten years old. In his religious views Mr. Reynolds is a Baptist.

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## WILLIAM EDWARD LIVELY.

The prominent lawyer whose name heads this sketch impresses even those who meet him in a casual way as a man who has drifted easily and naturally into the legal profession, who realizes that he has made no mistake in the choice of his vocation, and feels thoroughly at home in the position which he occupies. This first impression deepens with a more intimate acquaintance, and familiarity with his life leads to the unbiased and impartial view that the unusual success he has achieved is the logical sequence of talent rightly used, together with energy and industry never misapplied. He was born in Williamsburg, Virginia, March 6, 1830, the only son born to Charles and Elizabeth (Orrill) Lively, natives also of the Old Dominion, but the paternal grandfather was an Englishman by birth and during colonial times took up his residence in this country, Gloucester County, in the State of Virginia. After the War of 1812, Charles Lively secured employment on a coasting vessel called the *Mayflower*, and while thus employed secured some means.

He then entered the employ of a wholesale commission house known as Dynesmore & Kyle, Baltimore, Maryland, and became Captain of a vessel known as the *Constitution*, and later was owner of the schooners *William L.* and the *Robert P. Waller*, both of which were sunk by the Confederates to prevent passage of Union gunboats during the Civil War, when McClellan was on his peninsular campaign. Captain Lively was successful in the management of his financial affairs and prior to his death, which occurred very suddenly in May, 1861, he had become the owner of several valuable farms. The maternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, Charles Orrill, was a Virginian by birth, of English descent, and died on his farm in York County, Virginia. At the age of six months, William Edward Lively was left motherless, and until three years of age was under the care of a faithful

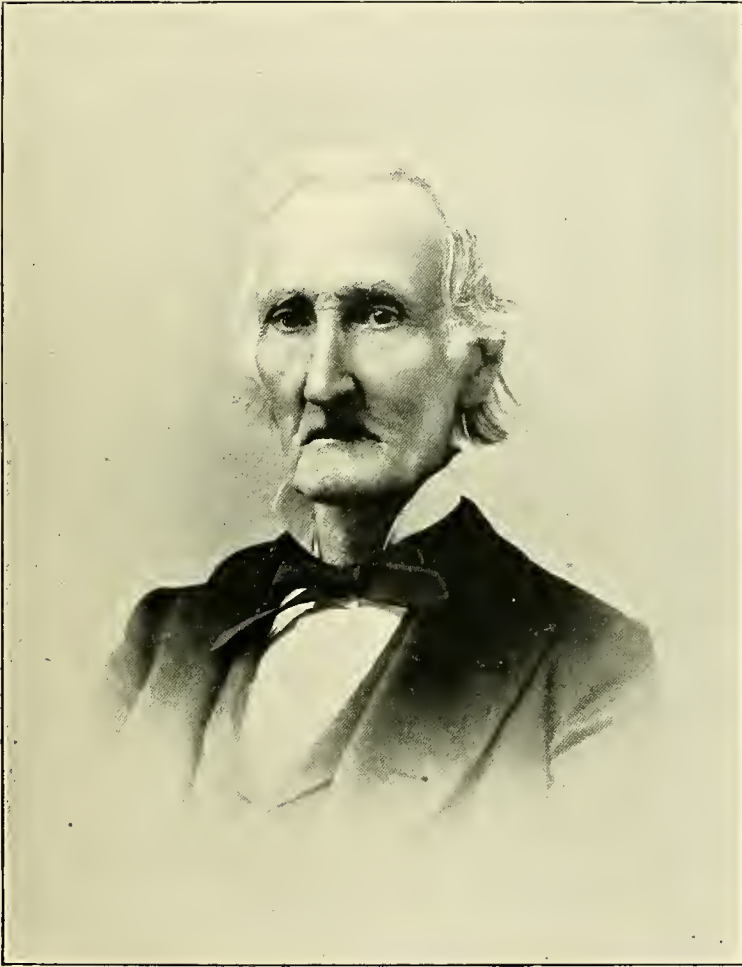
colored servant. His father then married a second time and his stepmother assumed control of him. As he was an only son, he was given many privileges and advantages and was sent to the best schools, finally ending his school life in 1855 at William and Mary College. When eighteen years of age his father offered him a schooner of 160 tons burden if he would take command, but he declined this offer and likewise refused an offer of 250 acres of land, stocked with negroes, animals and farming utensils, in addition to the 200 acres of land already owned and inherited by him from his mother. He was enterprising, ambitious and independent, and desired to carve out his own fortune without aid from others, and without the knowledge of his father, accepted the Deputy Sergeancy of Williamsburg. His life from 1851 to 1854 was mainly spent in traveling, teaching and clerking, but in the last mentioned year he began the study of law in earnest and pursued his researches in William and Mary College until 1856, when a disagreement occurred between himself and an instructor, and Mr. Lively declined to present himself for graduation. After practicing a short time in Weston, he formed a law partnership with Caleb Boggess of Clarksburg, and made his appearance at the bar in Glenville, about March 15, 1857. In 1859, he returned to Weston and practiced until the opening of the war in 1861, when his sympathies were wholly with the Confederate cause. He accordingly repaired to Richmond and was commissioned by General Wise as Lieutenant-Colonel of a regiment and was instructed to secure recruits. He raised a regiment at Weston, and while on his way to join General Wise at Hawk's Nest he was captured by Union troops under Colonel E. B. Taylor, was sent a prisoner to Grafton and put in confinement. While here he came near being put to death in retaliation for the shooting of two Union men by Confederate guerrillas. During his imprisonment that department was commanded by Generals Rosecrans, Kelly and Fremont, whom he holds in grateful remembrance for humane and kind treatment, each of whom paroled him and gave him pass to travel anywhere within their command. While having some dental work done in Wheeling he was arrested and ordered to the Atheneum, the old war prison of that city, but during this confinement of three days was given many liberties. He was then ordered to report at Clarksburg to General Rosecrans. At the end of three months he was re-arrested and served as a prisoner in Forts Delaware, Warren, Point Lookout and Fortress Monroe, until May, 1863, when he was again paroled and exchanged. He afterward joined Company I, Tenth Regiment of Cavalry, Confederate States of America, as a private and participated in a number of battles, the most important of which were Seven Pines, Wilder-

ness, and Spottsylvania, in the latter of which he was wounded. He was then detailed to the Treasury Department at Richmond, where he remained until the fall of the Confederacy. He then returned to his home, at Williamsburg, Virginia, to find it in ruins, and upon his return to Weston began practicing the profession of law alone. He has been a director in the West Virginia Hospital for the Insane at Weston about six years, and is now one of the directors and the president of the Insane Asylum at Spencer, West Virginia. In 1884 he was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention at Chicago, when he voted for the nomination of Grover Cleveland for the Presidency. In 1888, he was elected to the State Legislature of West Virginia, and was again elected to this responsible office in 1892, serving on a number of important committees, particularly the committee to examine the report on the contest for Governor between Goff and Fleming. From 1869 to 1875, he was Prosecuting Attorney of Gilmer County and since then has had a large general practice, and may be fully trusted to look after the interests of his clients. He was married June 3, 1869, to Miss Emily North Shaw, a native of Louisiana, and a daughter of William M. Shaw, a planter of that State. To Mr. and Mrs. Lively the following children have been born: Ethel S., who died at the age of five years; Zeta O., Estelle, William E., Jr., who is attending the University of West Virginia; Fannie S., Henry S., Emily N. and Charles. Mr. Lively is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he is Past Grand, and is a worthy member of the Episcopal Church, of which he has been one of the trustees and vestrymen for over fifteen years. His wife, who died February 10, 1889, was a great favorite among society people of Weston, West Virginia, a devoted wife, fond and loving mother, and a worthy member of this church also.

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## COLONEL LUTHER HAYMOND.

In looking over a comparative statement of the institutions of a financial character doing business in Clarksburg, West Virginia, we find them in comparison with the same class of organizations elsewhere, solvent, prosperous and useful in the highest degree. The Merchants' National Bank, of West Virginia, located at Clarksburg, adds no little to this, and is one of the best and most substantial of its kind in the State. Colonel Luther



*Leather Hayward*





Haymond, its well-known cashier, is a man who possesses qualities, the value of which cannot be overestimated, one of which is the art of pleasing, or, in other words, an accommodating spirit, and this, coupled with his native intelligence, his faithfulness to his duties and his strict integrity, makes him a popular and most efficient official. He comes of Revolutionary stock, for his grandfather, William Haymond, who was born in Maryland in 1740, served as Captain and Major in that great struggle, having command of troops raised in Monongalia County, West Virginia, whither he came in 1773. He also commanded what was known as Pickett's Fort, south of Morgantown, and after the war was over held the office of County Sheriff. In 1784, when Harrison County was formed, he was appointed Surveyor of the county, and continued to hold office up to the day of his death, which occurred in 1821. He was a true American, was deeply interested in the welfare of this country, and was a participant in the various Indian wars that came up in Pennsylvania and Virginia, and was with General Forbes in 1758, at the taking of Fort Pitt, now Pittsburgh. Although he lived on a farm the greater part of his life, he gave little attention to its cultivation, his active nature demanding other fields in which to expend his energy. He was first married to Miss Clelland, of Maryland, who died in 1788, having become the mother of four sons and several daughters, the names of the former being John, William, Thomas and Daniel; the two eldest being born in Maryland and the two youngest in what is now West Virginia, and all became the heads of families. John became a member of the Virginia Legislature, as a member of the House and then the Senate, and Daniel was a member of the West Virginia Senate for three or four years. After the death of his first wife, William Haymond married a second time, a Miss Pettijohn becoming his wife, and eventually the mother of one son and two daughters, the former, Cyrus, becoming a soldier and officer in the War of 1812. John Haymond, the father of William, came to this country from England, and until his death made his home in Maryland, where he reared a family. Thomas Haymond, son of William, and the father of Colonel Luther Haymond, was born in Monongalia County, this State, January 16, 1776, and in his youth received such education as the schools of his day afforded. He succeeded his father as Surveyor of Harrison County, in 1821, and by various appointments and elections, held the office up to the day of his death in 1853. He had been a scout when a young man, during the Indian troubles in this section, and like his worthy sire before him, was active in promoting all enterprises for the good of his section, and in an early day was Major of militia. Although he always lived

on a farm he became well-known throughout the State as a man of unblemished reputation and far more than ordinary intelligence. He was married in this county to Rebecca Bond, daughter of Richard Bond, who came to this section in about 1800, from Cecil County, Maryland, at which time he was quite advanced in years. He had been a member of the Maryland Legislature for twenty-one or twenty-two years, during which time he did much to shape the affairs of that Commonwealth. His daughter, Rebecca, was born in Maryland, in 1780, and on the 21st of April, 1869, she breathed her last in West Virginia. She became the mother of six children: Rufus, who for many years was a successful practicing physician of Indiana, and for some time was a member of the Legislature of that State from Franklin County, died there in 1889; Rowena became the wife of James P. Wilson, afterward married Elijah Tarleton, and died in 1870; Luther, the subject of this sketch; Rudolph, who died young; Louis, who died in 1847, left a widow and four children, and Cassandra, who died early. Luther Haymond was born in Harrison County, Virginia, six miles from Clarksburg, February 23, 1809, and while growing up his early advantages, unfortunately, were quite poor. Until about sixteen years of age he lived on a farm, then became a clerk in a store, and finally a merchant. He became a land surveyor and civil engineer for the State of Virginia, and this occupation successfully followed up to 1860, when he became cashier of the branch of the Merchants' & Mechanics' Bank of Wheeling, at Clarksburg, but which in 1865 was succeeded by the Merchants' National Bank of Clarksburg. This was the first bank in the place and Colonel Haymond held the position of cashier during its existence. In 1843 and '44, he represented Harrison County in the State Legislature of Virginia at Richmond, as an old-line Whig, but since the birth of the Republican party has been one of its staunchest supporters. He was treasurer of Harrison County as long as that office existed, and in ways too numerous to mention has been a prominent and progressive citizen.

He has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for forty-seven years, and in this order has always been greatly interested, and has been one of its most active members. His foresight and keen business acumen have won him an abundance of this world's goods and besides a number of fine farms in the county, he owns valuable real estate in Clarksburg. The Colonel was married in Clarksburg to Miss Delia A. Moore, daughter of Major Thomas P. Moore, a native of Delaware, who came to this county about 1800, and became a soldier and Major of the War of 1812. Colonel Haymond was left a widower in 1867, after having

become the father of the following children: Wirt, Henry, Lee, Emma, who died young; Myra, wife of M. Lewis; Ida, who died early; Lewis (deceased), Thomas and Bruce. Colonel Haymond's second marriage was to Madisonia Gittings, in 1878, a daughter of Dr. M. D. and Sophia C. (Jackson) Gittings, who came to Morgantown, West Virginia, from Maryland, in 1829, and later settled in Harrison County, where the father died in 1877. The family resided for a short time in Ohio, but finally returned to Clarksburg and here the mother also died. The following children were also born to them: John, James, Alice, Allen, Mary and Columbia. Two children, William and Ellen, were by a former marriage of Mr. Gittings. Henry and Lee Haymond, sons of Colonel Luther Haymond, were Captains during the Civil War, and were faithful and competent officers. They are both competent business men, and Lee is assistant cashier in the bank of which his father is cashier, while Henry is clerk of the Circuit Court. Mrs. Haymond is a great-granddaughter of Governor Meigs and also of Judge John G. Jackson.

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## HENRY CLAY HYDE.

Since the proud day that Rome sat mistress of the world, and laid her iron rule on other lands, legal science has attracted many of the profoundest minds known among men, and seems likely to maintain its pre-eminent place in ages yet to come. With others in Northwestern Virginia who have given special study to the law, and won distinction at the bar, may justly be named the subject of this sketch. Henry Clay Hyde is the eldest son of Captain Jacob S. and Amanda (Crane) Hyde, and was born January 23, 1855, at Cranesville, Preston County, West Virginia—then Virginia. His paternal grandfather, Joseph Hyde, was a resident of Shenandoah County, Virginia, and one of the numerous descendants of the distinguished Hyde family of England. His son, Captain Jacob S. Hyde (father), was educated for the ministry and began his religious work in the Evangelical Association at Cranesville, where he was married in April, 1853, to Amanda Crane, a daughter of John Crane, for whom the village of Cranesville was named, and who was one of the leading citizens of Preston County in ante bellum days. John Crane's father, Samuel Crane, settled in what is now Preston County as early as 1790, and was a lineal descendant of Stephen Crane, who emigrated from England, in 1666, and became one of the first settlers of

Elizabethtown, New Jersey. Thus it will be seen that in both paternal and maternal lines Mr. Hyde traces the transatlantic origin of his family back to the British Isle.

Early in 1863, Captain Jacob S. Hyde removed his family from Cranesville to Brandonville, an old town in the same county, and there enlisted a company of volunteers known as Company L, Sixth West Virginia Cavalry. As Captain of this company he entered the Federal service in the Winter of 1863-4. In the Fall of 1864 he and his entire company were made prisoners of war by a superior Confederate force under the command of General Rosser, and were sent to Richmond and confined in the notorious Libby Prison. There Captain Hyde remained, subject to great privation, until near the 1st of the following March, when he was released under an exchange, and on his way home he died at Annapolis, Maryland, on March 12, 1865. His remains were forwarded to his late home, where they were interred with military honors, in the presence of a vast concourse of loyal citizens who had assembled to do honor to his memory.

By the death of Captain Hyde his wife and five children, including the subject of this sketch, who was then ten years of age, were left without material support, owing to the vicissitudes of fortune incident to the war. Mrs. Hyde, who is still living, was at that time thirty-four years of age, and a woman of great force of character. She set resolutely to work to support and educate her children, and accomplished her purpose, though all the resources of her energy and ingenuity were taxed heavily by the task. Her eldest son, the subject of this sketch, was given the advantage of the excellent school then conducted in the old academy at Brandonville until he was in his thirteenth year. Thinking he was then able to support himself, young Hyde went to Illinois to live with a maternal uncle, an extensive farmer and cattle dealer, where he remained two years, engaged principally in herding cattle. This work proving uncongenial to his tastes, he returned to West Virginia, and in May, 1870, he became an apprentice to the printing business in the office of the Preston County Journal, at Kingwood. Before his apprenticeship of three years was completed he became one of the editors and proprietors of the Journal, and was at that time the youngest editor in the State. His active mind had early been attracted to the legal profession, and he strove hard to get enough money together to enable him\* to attend college and prepare himself for the bar. Circumstances, however, seemed to be against his cherished plans, until an uncle, P. S. Hyde, of Piedmont, West

\*Contributed to this work by W. Scott Garner.

Virginia, learning of his efforts, voluntarily advanced the means to enable him to secure a thorough education.

Upon returning from school, Mr. Hyde became associate editor of the Preston County Herald, at Kingwood. In the Fall of 1877, he purchased the Herald plant, and immediately established the West Virginia Argus, which he edited for a year. He afterward edited the Argus during the exciting campaign of 1886. He also edited the Piedmont Dispatch during the memorable Congressional campaign of 1882, ably espousing the cause of Hon. Wm. L. Wilson, then Democratic candidate for Congress in the Second District, and now Postmaster-General in President Cleveland's cabinet.

On the first day of January, 1879, Mr. Hyde began the study of law in the office of John Barton Payne, Esq., then practicing in Kingwood, but now a Judge of one of the superior courts of the City of Chicago. In the following September, before the late Hon. A. F. Haymond, Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeals, and Hons. A. B. Fleming and J. D. Armstrong, circuit judges, he passed the necessary examination for admission to the bar. He then resigned as Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court, a position which he held under his uncle, Smith Crane, and began the practice of his profession by immediately entering into the trial of a murder case, on behalf of the defense, in which he was associated with Hon. Wm. G. Brown, Sr., Hon. Waitman T. Willey and John Barton Payne, Esq. Although the prosecution was ably assisted by Philip H. Keck, Esq., an eminent lawyer of Morgantown, the prisoner was acquitted. Shortly after this, Mr. Hyde traveled extensively through the West, intending to locate at some point to practice his profession. He remained in the Rocky Mountains for about six months, when he returned to West Virginia. He was, at intervals, engaged in newspaper work, with marked success as a writer, until November, 1883, when he returned to his profession, locating at Kingwood. His success was slow. Kingwood was an old town, and the practice was held well in hand by the older lawyers, and for nearly three years no client darkened the doorway of his office. His clothes became threadbare and his pockets were empty. He wrote in the Clerk's office to pay office rent, and set type, as opportunity afforded, to pay his board bill, which was growing, as time wore on, out of all proportion to his prospects of success. He once told the writer that he would go elsewhere and seek other employment, but was too poor to get away.

In May, 1886, Charles Lakel and Jacob Lieb became engaged in an altercation at Brandonville, in which Lakel stabbed Lieb to the heart and killed him. Lakel was brought to the county jail at Kingwood, when

he immediately sent for Mr. Hyde and engaged his services in his defense. Here was young Hyde's opportunity, and he availed himself of it. Lakel was indicted for murder. The case was continued at the first term at which it was called, and it was eleven months after the tragedy when Lakel was put upon his trial. This time was almost exclusively devoted to the study and development of the case by Mr. Hyde. The scene of the tragedy was the one street running through his old home-town. He knew the ground; he knew all the witnesses, and they were nearly a hundred in number; he knew the prisoner from early childhood, and had received many a kindness at his hands when a school boy. Mr. Hyde had not forgotten this, and set about to assist in saving the life of his friend, being associated in the case with Hon. B. F. Martin, of the Grafton bar, and Wm. G. Brown, Jr., Esq., of the Kingwood bar. The case was hotly contested, and Lakel was given but ten years' imprisonment, while many expected a verdict of murder in the first degree, the punishment for which would have been death in the absence of a contrary recommendation from the jury. From the numerous comments of the press on the conduct of this noted trial, we give the following from the West Virginia Argus: "The argument most closely watched by the public and most favorably commented on by them was that by Henry Clay Hyde. Mr. Hyde is one of the youngest lawyers engaged in the case, and yet one of the ablest. His speech showed careful thought and diligent study, while the eloquent sentences in which he phrased his thrilling appeals to the attentive jury, marked his speech as one of the most convincingly brilliant ever heard in our county."

Since that time, Mr. Hyde has had his share of the business at the Kingwood bar. He is devoted to his profession and eschews politics. In April, 1893, he formed a co-partnership with Wm. G. Brown, and the firm of Brown & Hyde has a large and increasing practice. They have a fine suite of offices near the court house, where, without doubt, can be found one of the most extensive and valuable private law libraries in the State.

Mr. Hyde is now engaged in the preparation of a digest of the West Virginia Reports, which is intended to include forty volumes of the reports, when completed. The thoroughness with which he does everything he undertakes is a guaranty of the character of the work he will offer to the legal fraternity, should he consent to its publication. He is engaged in the work chiefly to add to his usefulness in his profession, and to more thoroughly acquaint himself with the law. If the work is such, when completed, that he thinks it would be of material use to the profession, he expects to give it publication—but not otherwise.

In October, 1889, Mr. Hyde was married to Miss Ida M. Martin, daughter of George W. S. Martin, of Kingwood, then lately of Marion County—a descendant of the Martin family which has maintained a prominence in affairs in the section of the State now comprising Monongalia, Marion and Taylor Counties, for more than a century. Mrs. Hyde is a niece of the late Hon. B. F. Martin, of Taylor County, who represented the Second district in Congress from 1876 to 1880, and was a lawyer of great prominence in his day. Two children add to the happiness of Mr. Hyde's home: Harold Edward, born March 2, 1891, and Ruth Martin, born March 31, 1893.

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## MAJOR CHARLES E. ANDERSON.

This substantial and honorable citizen was born in St. Lawrence, New York, in 1834, the youngest of seven children born to Charles and Pattie (Morrell) Anderson, natives of Vermont and Concord, New Hampshire. The paternal grandfather, William Anderson, was a native of Scotland and upon coming to the United States, settled in Vermont, where he followed farming the rest of his days. The maternal grandfather was born in New England and came of a fine old family of that region. Charles Anderson removed to the State of New York, in 1800, just after his marriage, and there spent the balance of his life, dying in 1859. His wife died in 1856. She was a first cousin of Senator Morrell. In the schools of Ogdensburg, New York, the subject of this sketch received a practical education, after which he clerked for a short time in that place. He then went to the City of New York and engaged in the real estate and brokerage business, and obtaining some property in Gilmer County, West Virginia, he made the trip thither to look at it, and being pleased with the Town of Weston and vicinity, he remained here. In the Spring of 1860 he became a partner in the firm of George A. Jackson & Co., and in the latter part of the same year the firm became Anderson & Vandervort, and continued as such until 1862, when the firm was ruined financially by a Confederate raid. In 1862, he assisted in raising a company for the Federal army, was made Lieutenant, and soon after, upon the organization of the company, he became Captain of Company I, Third West Virginia Cavalry, and served under Sheridan and Custer until the close of the war. In the Fall of 1864, he was made Major of

the Regiment and soon after became a member of General Custer's staff, from which duties he was not released until June, 1865. He then returned to Weston, leased the Bailey Hotel, but after conducting it for two years, gave up this business to enter the employ of a Baltimore house, with which he remained a number of years. In 1885, he started a shoe store in Weston, three years later disposed of the stock, after which he discharged the duties of Postmaster of Weston for four years. In his political views he has always been an active Republican and has been a delegate to numerous conventions. During 1894 he was Mayor of Weston, but it can be said of him that he is by no means an official aspirant. The cause of education has always been a matter of deep interest to him and during the nine years that he served as a member of the School Board of Weston, three of these years were spent as president. He was one of the organizers of the Grand Army of the Republic Post No. 50, and has been and is now commander of this post, and was, in 1892, commander of this department. He was married in 1877 to Miss Hallie Edmiston, a daughter of Judge Edmiston. She is a consistent member of the Episcopal Church and is an intelligent and kind-hearted woman. Mr. Anderson has been a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons since 1864. He has many friends, which fact speaks eloquently as to his numerous worthy qualities as a citizen, business man and friend.

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## COLONEL HENRY HAYMOND.

Among the old, intelligent and representative families of this part of West Virginia, is the one of which the subject of this sketch is a descendant. He comes of a family of soldiers, for his great-grandfather served in the Colonial wars against the French and in the Revolutionary War, his grandfather in various wars with the savage red man, his maternal grandfather was a soldier of the War of 1812, so it is not to be wondered at that he inherited a warm love for the land that gave him birth and assisted in the defense of the "Old Flag" during the great Civil War. He was born to Colonel Luther Haymond in Clarksburg, West Virginia, January 6, 1837, and in the schools of his native town and of some still more eastern cities he obtained a good education, and after graduating from the Northwest Virginia Academy took a year's course in Loudoun Agricultural Institute of Leesburg, Virginia.



Upon finishing his literary education he took up the study of law, in the office of the late John S. Hoffman, of Clarksburg, and was perfecting himself in Blackstone when Fort Sumter was fired upon. His patriotism was at once aroused and he enlisted in the Union service and was appointed Captain in the Eighteenth Infantry, United States of America, and assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. He served in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia, and took part in the engagements at Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Siege of Corinth, Chattanooga, Mission Ridge, and in the engagements in the early part of the Atlantic campaign. He was wounded at Stone River by a musket ball, but not seriously, and was not disabled for service any great length of time. He was breveted at Murfreesboro, and then at Chattanooga, and commanded eight companies of his regiment at Chickamauga and Mission Ridge. He took command at Hoover's Gap, in June, 1863, as the commanding officer was killed, and was also at the battle of Buzzard's Roost. At the time of the surrender he was at Lookout Mountain, and after the war terminated, the Eighteenth Regiment was sent to the West and was located at Fort Kearney, and was with the expedition in 1866 that established military posts through to Montana. He was also with an expedition on the Republican River in Nebraska, after the Sioux Indians in 1868. Colonel Haymond remained in the West three years, but resigned in 1870, while stationed at Omaha, Nebraska, and returned east. For three years he resided in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, but finally returned to Clarksburg, West Virginia, and established himself in the lumber trade, and was also engaged in the manufacture of that commodity and in farming, which he followed successfully up to within a few years ago. However, he is still interested in agricultural pursuits. In 1876, he was elected to the position of Recorder of Clarksburg, and in 1887 was chosen to represent this county in the State Legislature. The following year he was elected to the office of Circuit Court Clerk of Harrison County, to fill a two years' vacancy, and in 1892 was elected to a six years' term. He was appointed by President Arthur as one of the Board of Visitors to West Point, and in 1878 was appointed by the revenue collector of this district as Deputy Revenue Collector, an office he filled with marked ability for six years. He has been president of the Clarksburg School Board for nine years, is interested in the Merchants' National Bank of West Virginia, in fact is a wide awake and progressive man of affairs and an active and public-spirited citizen. Having always been an active member of the Republican party, he has attended various State Conventions and has always been active in political matters. He is a member of Custer Post No. 8, of the Grand Army of

the Republic, at Clarksburg, and was commander of the same in 1889, and is also a member of the Sons of the Revolution. He was married to Miss Mary Garrard, daughter of William H. Garrard, of Pittsburgh, and they have a daughter, Delia, who is the wife of Benjamin R. Blackford, of Parkersburg.

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### REV. P. B. REYNOLDS, D. D.

This worthy man and able educator has been connected with the West Virginia State University of Morgantown, West Virginia, since 1885, and during several years of this period he was connected with this well-known educational institution in the capacity of vice-president. In 1892 he became acting president of the college, and is ably filling the position at the present time. As an educator of the young too much cannot be said in his praise, for not only is he a profound and accomplished scholar, but he possesses the faculty of imparting his information in a clear and concise manner suited to the understanding of the most ordinary intellect, and in addition is a disciplinarian of no ordinary ability. He is a product of Patrick County, Virginia, where he was born on the 9th of January, 1841. Like many other men who have attained prominence, he was reared in the backwoods, and his initiatory training was obtained in the common schools of the Old Dominion. His youth was spent in physical labor, which served to develop his muscles, and strengthen an already sound constitution, and when the war came up he was in physically excellent condition to enter in the service of his country, and his first service was in the Fifth Kentucky Infantry. At the end of one year he enlisted in the Fiftieth Virginia Infantry, and was with the Army of Northern Virginia throughout the remainder of his service. He took part in the battles of Chancellorsville, Wilderness, Gettysburg, Winchester, and also participated in many others of importance. He was taken prisoner in the engagement at Fisher's Hill in September, 1864, and was held at Point Lookout, Maryland, for some time, being exchanged about the time of the surrender. Soon after this he entered Richmond College, in 1866, from which institution he graduated in 1871, and soon after was placed in charge of Shelton College, near Charleston, of which he had control until 1884, when he took charge of a college in Arkansas, but the following year came to the West Virginia State University. He was first called to the

college to fill the chair of English, and afterward that of metaphysics, but eventually became president of the institution, for which position his talents admirably fit him. Although he usually supports the principles of the Democratic party, he at one time acted with the Prohibition party, and by it was nominated to Congress in 1882. Dr. Reynolds is of a deep religious nature and for some time has been a minister of the Baptist Church, and in this respect wields a wide and beneficial influence over his pupils, both as regards precept and example. The doctor is of English-German descent, for while his paternal ancestors came from England, his mother's ancestors, the Shelors, came from the Fatherland. His father, James B. Reynolds, spent his life on a farm in Virginia, and there paid the last debt of nature after a well spent life, having been an upright and useful citizen and a soldier of the Mexican War. Dr. Reynolds was first married in the State of his birth to a Miss Woolwine, by whom he became the father of three children: Professor Wayland Reynolds, Mabel and Horace, who died young. After losing his first wife, Dr. Reynolds married Miss Love, and by her also had three children: Ethel, Boyce and Carson H., who died in 1892, at the age of eighteen years. The doctor and his family are well-known and highly respected, and as an educator he is well and favorably known all over the State. He received his honorary degree from his alma mater.

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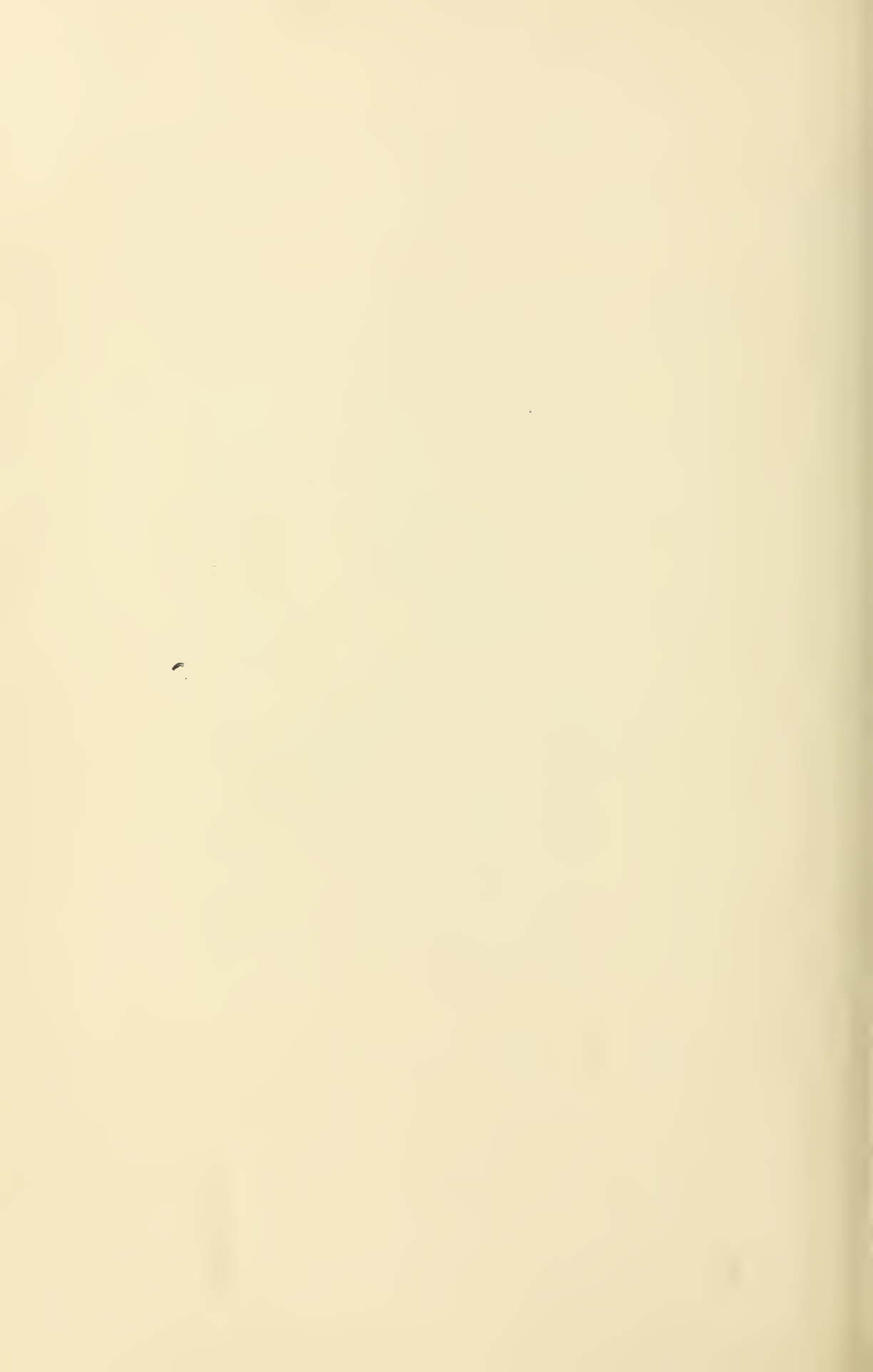
## CAPTAIN ALEXANDER M. POUNDSTONE.

The bar of West Virginia has won an enviable name all over the country for the erudition, success and courtesy of its members, a number of whom have achieved a national reputation for their ability and a correct apprehension of what pertains to the profession. Among those who stand deservedly high at the bar of Upshur County, is Captain Alexander M. Poundstone, who was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, in 1835, the eldest of two children born to Richard and Bathsheba (McClelland) Poundstone (natives of Pennsylvania), and grandson of Philip Poundstone and James A. McClelland, also natives of that State. Philip Poundstone removed to Ohio after he had attained manhood and there engaged in farming. He enlisted from that State in the War of 1812, and there eventually passed from life. He was of German lineage. Mr. McClelland raised a company of cavalry for

service in the War of 1812, was chosen Captain of the same, and served in Northern Ohio. He resided in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, until 1840, then moved to Iowa and died in Keokuk in 1851. He was quite prominent in political affairs, and for a number of terms served as a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature. His father, Alexander McClelland, was a Virginian and there married a Miss Booth, after which he moved to Pennsylvania. He was of Scotch-Irish lineage. The wife of James A. McClelland was Juliet Oliphant. Richard Poundstone spent his entire life in the Keystone State, and was very extensively engaged in the purchase and sale of stock, making a specialty of cattle-dealing, by which he acquired considerable property. He died in 1854 and his wife in 1838. Captain Alexander M. Poundstone received better educational advantages than were given the average boy of his day, for he was not only an attendant of Dunlap Academy, but also of Greene Academy in Greene County, and Allegheny College at Meadville, Pennsylvania. In 1858, he began teaching at New Lexington, Ohio, in charge of the Union schools, and about the same time began the study of law, continuing his studies as well as his duties as a pedagogue until 1861, although he had been admitted to the bar in 1860. His patriotic spirit led him to at once take up arms in defense of the Union cause, and in 1861 he became a member of Company C, of the Sixty-second Ohio Infantry, and was at once chosen Second Lieutenant, and afterward Captain. He was in General Shields' Division of the Army of General Banks, Twelfth Army Corps, and took part in the battle of Winchester, Virginia, March 23, 1862, and numerous skirmishes near Suffolk, Virginia. In the winter of 1862-3 he was honorably discharged from the service and was soon after appointed by President Lincoln as Captain in the Fifth Colored Infantry Regiment, raised in Ohio. With that regiment he marched to the assistance of General Kilpatrick in his raid on Richmond, in 1864, and was in the engagements at Petersburg Heights, June 15, 1864, in the siege of Petersburg during the summer of 1864, in the battles of New Market Heights and Fort Harrison, September 29, 1864; and was with General Terry in the capture of Fort Fisher, January 15, 1865, as well as numerous smaller engagements. After the capture of Wilmington, North Carolina, he marched with his command northward and joined General Sherman at Goldsborough, and at the time of Lee's surrender was at Faison's Depot, North Carolina. He remained in North Carolina until the Fall of 1865 and was discharged at Camp Chase, Ohio. He at once located in Buckhannon, West Virginia, opened a law office and soon won a reputation as an able legal practitioner. In 1866 he was elected Prosecuting Attorney of the county, in which capacity he served for fourteen



*A. M. Roundstone.*



years. On two different occasions he was elected to represent the county in the State Legislature (1872 and 1879), and served on various committees, among others the Committee on Taxation and Finance, and in 1880 was a candidate on the electoral ticket for Garfield, from the Second District of West Virginia. He is a pronounced Republican, is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic and is a member of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion Commandery of Ohio. He was promoted to the rank of Major by brevet for gallant and meritorious service during the war. In 1857, Captain Poundstone was married to Miss Araminta McCormick of Fayette County, Pennsylvania, a daughter of James McCormick, who was of Scotch-Irish descent. To them three children were given: Mary, wife of C. L. Barlow, of Buckhannon; Homer Clark, a Lieutenant in the United States navy, and Annie, wife of F. W. Wright, a merchant of Buckhannon. Captain and Mrs. Poundstone are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, move in the best social circles of their section and have numerous and warm friends. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the West Virginia Conference Seminary, a flourishing institution of learning located at Buckhannon in the year 1890.

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## HON. STEPHEN BENTON ELKINS.

“Hon. Stephen Benton Elkins, a citizen of West Virginia, was born in Perry County, Ohio, on the 26th of September, 1841. During the childhood of Mr. Elkins his father removed with his family to the State of Missouri, where young Elkins attended the public school and was fitted for college. Entering the Missouri University, he graduated in 1860 at the age of eighteen. He was admitted to the bar in 1863. When the war broke out he joined the Union forces and attained the rank of Captain. In 1864 young Elkins removed to New Mexico, where at that time dangers, hardships and discomforts had to be met and overcome, but along with these came opportunities for success. Nearly two-thirds of the people were Spanish-speaking people, and with the Spanish language Mr. Elkins had little or no acquaintance. To practice law successfully a knowledge of the language was necessary. By hard study and close application he spoke the language fairly within one year. From this time his popularity and influence widened.

Barely had the first year of his residence elapsed when he was elected to the Territorial Legislature. In this position his watchfulness of the interests of his constituents, and his rapidly developing force of character won him regard and favor. By his speeches in the Legislature he gained distinction through the Territory. In 1867 he was made Attorney-General of the Territory. In 1869, President Andrew Johnson appointed him United States Attorney. After holding this place nearly four years, he resigned under the Grant administration. He discharged the duties of the office with credit to himself and satisfaction to his superiors. He was elected a delegate in 1873 to represent the Territory in the Forty-third Congress of the United States. In Congress, where he served two terms, his career was noteworthy. By attending to his duties he increased his popularity at home and won the confidence of his fellow members.

At the close of Mr. Elkins' first term in Congress, he visited Europe, and upon his return was surprised to find himself re-elected while abroad for a second term to the Forty-fourth Congress. This was done in the face of his positive declination to be a candidate before going to Europe. During his services in Congress he introduced a bill for the admission of New Mexico as a State into the Union. Mr. Elkins' speech in the House in support of the bill won him a national reputation. Although there was strong opposition the bill passed the House by a two-thirds vote, due largely to Mr. Elkins' speech and personal efforts. The bill received an amendment in the Senate and was defeated for want of time on its return to the House. From the start and whenever opportunity permitted he has steadily pursued his legal profession and invariably with marked success. In finance his talent showed early and remarkable development. In 1869, he became president of the First National Bank of Santa Fe, which, under his management, acquired national credit and name. For more than a decade Mr. Elkins has been interested financially in the development of West Virginia property. His residence as well as numerous interests lie within the borders of that State. One of the most far-reaching enterprises in which he took a prominent part, was the building of the West Virginia Central Railway and the development of large tracts of coal and timber land in the Cumberland region. Generally speaking, the career of Mr. Elkins as a statesman and politician has in a large measure included his business projects involving as they do remarkable skill and sound judgment in the management and control of men. This faculty has won to his side a host of friends and men of business who place implicit confidence in his counsel and suggestions. While in Congress, he wedded the daughter of Senator Henry G. Davis, of West Virginia, a lady



widely and deservedly noted for her genuine womanly refinement and true amiability of character. Mr. Elkins' sympathies have at all times been with every benevolent movement, whether foreign or American. On the labor question he has always endeavored to establish confidence and harmony between employer and employé. For all reforms no readier patron can be sought out, no more willing supporter appealed to than Mr. Elkins. As the warm personal friend of the late Hon. James G. Blaine, Mr. Elkins took a very active part in his behalf in the campaign of 1884. His decided conviction regarding the Republican protective tariff policy came most prominently before the country in 1875, when he became a member of the Republican National Committee representing New Mexico.

His greatest national prominence came to him during the campaign of 1884, when he was chosen chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Republican Committee, a position he held with honor, and was marked at the time by the unflagging zeal which he inspired in all his co-workers in behalf of Mr. Blaine. In 1878, he removed from Washington to New York City, where from his office he conducted the business of his several interests in New Mexico, Colorado and West Virginia. His country home is now at Elkins, in this State. Like an old-time baronial mansion, it occupies a mountain site, with a magnificent prospect, taking in a wide stretch of valley, mountain peaks and ranges. A vast porch surrounds the four-story structure on three sides, which, viewed from a distance, with its towers, is not unlike an ancient castle. The main hall of the house is eighty feet long by twenty feet wide, from which fact some idea may be formed of the large space occupied by the other apartments of the house.

In December, 1891, Mr. Elkins was nominated by President Harrison for Secretary of War to succeed Mr. Proctor. His appointment was well received throughout the country, and his selection was regarded as an excellent one by the leading men in both parties. Mr. Elkins, from his close acquaintance with the army, his residence in the West, his experience in Congress and his knowledge of law and business methods was well fitted for the duties of the office. In such a position his power of organizing and directing—a conspicuous characteristic of the man—had free scope, and he fully justified the expectations of all who knew him. In discharging the duties of Secretary of War, Mr. Elkins was accessible to everybody on public business; and made it a point to be cordial, obliging and helpful to Senators and members of the House in matters they had before the department. After hearing the facts he never delayed making a decision. At this time a keen observer of men wrote of him: "His intellectual strength, his sound sense, his generous

nature and high-minded personal worth, won him the friendship of the best men of all parties. This high regard achieved by the force of his own liberal merits, he has continually kept and it has changed only to be brightened by the lapse of time."

Mr. Elkins is what is generally considered a large man, and stands slightly over six feet in height. With an intensely strong face, he carries broad shoulders and is powerfully built. He is exceedingly fond of books, and is an ardent student of literature and history.

Though an attentive listener he frequently interrupts with pertinent questions, with the view of elucidating the matter. Mr. Elkins' father, Colonel P. D. Elkins, is still living at the age of eighty-five. His mother's name was Sarah Withers and she belonged to the aristocratic family of Lee, in Virginia. By his first wife, Mr. Elkins has two surviving children, Mrs. A. C. Oliphant, living at Trenton, New Jersey, and Mrs. Edward E. Brunner, of New York City, who was married November 17, 1893, by Cardinal Gibbons, assisted by Archbishop Ireland, with impressive ceremonies in the great cathedral in New York. By his second wife, Mr. Elkins has five children; four boys: Davis, Stephen B., Jr., Richard and Blaine, and one girl, Katherine.

As a public citizen, husband and father, Hon. Stephen B. Elkins has made an enviable record and will be ranked among the leading typical American gentlemen. On January 23, 1895, Mr. Elkins was elected as a Republican to represent West Virginia in the United States Senate.

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## JOHN WM. BAILEY.

The Bailey family, of which John Wm. Bailey is a member, is of Scotch origin, and the first member of the family to come to the New World was the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, who had married an English wife, Hannah Thornsburry, who died January 1, 1831, aged one hundred and three years, and settled in old Virginia. Their son, Thornsburry Bailey, was born in that State, but when still quite young in years came to what is now West Virginia (about 1810) and purchased and settled on a farm in Taylor County, which had been the original homestead, entered by Thomas Bartlett, in 1795. Mr. Bailey married Mr. Bartlett's daughter Mary, and on the farm

which he had purchased they continued to spend the remainder of their days, and there reared their eight children: Edith, Thomas, Roanna, Lydia, Hannah, James, Eleanor and Benjamin, all of whom, except Eleanor, settled on farms in Taylor County, married and reared families. In the year 1888, seven of these eight children were living: Edith, who was then eighty-one years of age; Thomas, Roanna, Lydia, James, Eleanor and Benjamin, at that time seventy years of age. Since that date Edith, Thomas, Lydia and Benjamin have died.

Some of the early members of the Bailey and Bartlett families were participants in the Revolutionary War and in their religious belief held to the faith of the Baptists. Benjamin Bailey, son of Thornsbury Bailey, was born on the home farm in Taylor County, March 9, 1818, and his early education was such as the public schools of his native county afforded. He afterward completed his education in Rector College at Pruntytown, and after completing his education and commencing the battle of life for himself he married Nancy, the daughter of John and Edith (Bartlett) Hopkins, who were of English lineage and early settlers of Monongalia County. The great-grandfather, William Robinson Hopkins, who married Nancy Oakley, of Tennessee, was one of the first settlers of Monongalia County from old Virginia, and was one of the most successful of the early medical practitioners of this section. He died about 1875, aged one hundred years. John Hopkins' family consisted of six children: William, Thomas, John, James, Catharine and Nancy Oakley, the latter of whom was born in Monongalia County. During the Civil War the four sons served in Company F, Eleventh West Virginia Infantry. The early members of the Bailey and Hopkins families were Whigs on both sides, have since been Republicans and were staunch Union men during the great struggle between the North and South. Benjamin Bailey was engaged in teaching school for many years and was widely known as one of the most successful educators of his section. He died in 1895 at the age of seventy-seven years, having been for fifty-five years a member of the Methodist Protestant Church. He had a comfortable home and a good farm and in public matters was active and prominent. His wife, who died in 1885, bore him three children: John Wm., Minerva and G. Howard, who is living on the old homestead in Taylor County. He is a public-spirited man and for years has been president of the Board of Education of his district. He is married and has two children. The early life of John Wm. Bailey, up to eighteen years of age, was spent on the home farm and in attending the district schools and the University at Morgantown and the West Virginia College at Flemington. After completing his literary

education he was for some time engaged in teaching school, but since 1871 he has resided on the farm on which he is now living in Harrison County, where he has devoted his attention to tilling the soil and stock-raising, and has also successfully followed his profession—that of a surveyor. At the present time he is the efficient surveyor of Harrison County, was Justice of the Peace from 1884 to 1888, and has held other minor official positions, and in one and all has ably discharged his duties. Like the other members of his family, he has always been an active Republican, and has on numerous occasions been a member of State, county and district conventions. He is a member of American Lodge No. 76, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Tyrconnel mines and is a member of Coplin Post No. 56, Department of West Virginia, of the Grand Army of the Republic, at Flemington. In 1863 he enlisted in Company C, Fourth West Virginia Cavalry, and was in the service for seven months, during which time he was in numerous skirmishes and rose to the rank of Commissary-Sergeant. Mr. Bailey was first married to Miss Kittie Ross, daughter of Isaac and Nancy (Lefevre) Ross, and to them one daughter was given: Kittie Bennie, born September 18, 1871. After the death of his wife in 1871, Mr. Bailey wedded Miss Rachel Rosalind, the daughter of William and Ferruca C. (Dever) Corder of Barbour County. In 1889 this wife died also. Mr. Bailey is a member of the Methodist Protestant Church, is an earnest worker in the church and to know him is to accord him the utmost honor and respect. He was born in Taylor County, March 4, 1845.

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### HON. D. M. WOTRING.

The career of him whose name heads this sketch clearly illustrates the possibilities that are open in this country to earnest, persevering young men who have the courage of their convictions and are determined to be the architects of their own fortunes. When judged by what he has already accomplished his right to a first place among Kingwood's representative citizens and able attorneys cannot be questioned. He is the present Prosecuting Attorney of Preston County and is a man well known among the prominent legal lights of Northern West Virginia, having built up an enviable record. Mr. Wotring is a native son of West Virginia, born in Union District, Pres-

ton County, May 23, 1853, and his father, William H. Wotring, was also a native of that county. The grandfather, John C. Wotring, was one of the very first settlers of Preston County, and became one of the prominent men of the same, holding several local positions of trust and honor. William H. Wotring grew to manhood in this county and was here married to Miss Susan C. Stemple, a native of this county, and the daughter of John D. Stemple, another of the honored first settlers of the county. Mr. Wotring was a farmer in this county for a number of years and actively and successfully engaged in this pursuit in Union District. In 1864 he enlisted in Company —, West Virginia Infantry, and fought for the old flag. He was taken with a fever and died November, 1864, while in the service of his country. Hon. D. M. Wotring was favored with a fair education during his youth, but is mainly self-educated. When but seventeen years of age he began teaching in Tucker County, and subsequently made teaching a profession for twelve years, during which time he taught eleven terms in his own district. Later he was elected Justice of the Peace, and served two years, but finally resigned and was appointed County Surveyor of land, filling out an unexpired term. In 1886 he began reading law with Judge Hoke and two years later was admitted to the bar. He located at Kingwood and has been actively and successfully engaged in the practice of law here since that time and is a lawyer whose ability is known and respected. Politically, Mr. Wotring is identified with the Republican party, and has always been deeply interested in local politics, helping his party through the campaigns for several years. For the last four years he has also helped through this, the Second Congressional District, and in the campaign of 1894, he made political speeches of great force and power, and was rejoiced to find his party triumphant. In previous years, Mr. Wotring was secretary and then chairman of the County Central Committee. In 1892 he was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Preston County, and has filled the position thus far with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. He was married in Preston County, in November, 1876, to Miss Emma Bishop, a daughter of Christian C. Bishop, and a native of Preston County, where she was reared and educated. Seven children were given them. The eldest, William, is a young man; the second, Martha, is an intelligent girl just budding into womanhood. The others are Arthur, Maud and Carrie, all attending the Kingwood High School, and Arnold and Rose, the youngest members of the family. Mr. Wotring has shown his appreciation of secret organizations by becoming a Mason, a Knight of Pythias, and has held various chairs in these organizations. He is a Master Mason and now holds the Eastern

chair in the Kingwood Lodge. He is a Past Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, and served as Captain of the Uniformed Rank one term, declining to be further honored. Mr. and Mrs. Wotring were formerly members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, but after locating in Kingwood they united with the Methodist Episcopal Church and are active workers in the same. Such is the biography of a man who started in life with a capital consisting only of health, ambition and determination, and who, using these qualities to good advantage, has not only reached a high place in his profession, but has also won the confidence and respect of his fellow-citizens.

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### J. P. SHAFER, M. D.

This prominent physician who is now successfully engaged in the practice of medicine in Preston County, is a native son of what is now West Virginia, his birth occurring in Monongalia County, June 3, 1833. His father, Jacob H. Shafer, was a native of what is now Fulton County, Pennsylvania, born in 1805. Grandfather Simeon Shafer was a native of Germany and came to Loudoun County, Virginia, with his father's family in an early day. When yet a young man he left his Virginia home and became one of the pioneer settlers of Bedford County, Pennsylvania, where he resided for years. Later in life he removed to Monongalia County, now West Virginia, and was an early settler there also. Jacob H. Shafer came to Virginia, now West Virginia, and Monongalia County with his father when a young man, but subsequently returned to his native State, where he was married in Bedford County, when nineteen years of age, to Miss Anna Fisher, a young lady of eighteen and a native of that county, but of German parentage. Mr. Shafer became a successful farmer and stock-raiser and passed the remainder of his days in Monongalia County, dying about 1862. His wife passed away several years previous to this. He was twice married, his second wife surviving him. To the first union were born seven children. The eldest, Eugenius, a farmer of Preston County, now resides near Gladesville; Sarah Ann became the wife of William B. Long, a farmer of Monongalia County; Dennis, a farmer in Nebraska; Dr. J. P. Shafer, subject; Mary Ellen, wife of Joseph Brookover, a farmer of Monongalia County; Elizabeth Frances, wife of Edmond Brand, also a farmer of that county, and George C., de-

ceased, was a farmer of Washington County, Pennsylvania. Dr. Shafer received good educational advantages in the schools of Monongalia County during youth and assisted about the old home place. After leaving the High School he learned photography and subsequently followed that business for several years. When about forty-three years of age he began the study of medicine with Brock Brothers, of Morgantown, and took his first course of lectures at Louisville, Kentucky, in the Winter of 1878 and '79. In the Summer of the latter year he located at Independence, Preston County, and began the practice of medicine. There he remained for two years and then returned to Louisville, where he took his second course of lectures, graduating from that institution in the Spring of 1882. Returning to Independence he practiced there for a few months and then moved to Parkersburg, where he continued the practice for five years and became one of the successful physicians of the same. In 1886, he removed to Rowlesburg, Preston County, West Virginia, and from thence in 1889 he removed to Terra Alta, West Virginia, where he has practiced ever since. He has met with the best of success in his chosen calling and is well and favorably known over this part of the State. The doctor was married in Hancock, Maryland, in February, 1859, to Miss Amanda Stillwell, who was born, reared and educated in Fulton County, Pennsylvania. There are three children, the fruits of this union: William C., who is one of the most successful photographers of West Virginia, resides in Fairmont, Marion County; Mary Lou, wife of C. Sprigg Sands, a prominent business man of Clarksburg and cashier of the Traders' National Bank, and Jennie, a young lady at home. Politically Dr. Shafer was formerly an old Jackson Democrat, but later at the beginning of the war he became identified with the Republican party. He is an active temperance worker and has of late years identified himself with the Prohibition party, and was a candidate of that party as Presidential elector in 1892. He has never aspired for office but gives his principal attention to his profession. The doctor is an earnest member of the Baptist Church of Terra Alta, and has served as superintendent of various Sabbath Schools for almost thirty years. Mrs. Shafer and Miss Jennie also hold membership in this church. Dr. Shafer has been a resident of Virginia and West Virginia his whole life, and of Preston County for about sixteen years, since his first coming to the county. He is one of the progressive and successful physicians of the State and is universally liked. A Shafer family reunion was celebrated July 23, 1892, at Harmony Grove, Monongalia County, southwest of Morgantown in the old Shafer and Camp settlement, where about three hundred relatives and friends assembled to participate in a grand good time.

A basket dinner was greatly enjoyed on the old playgrounds that surrounded the site of the old No. 1 school house of long ago. Dr. Shafer was selected to prepare a family history and this was read on that occasion. From this we gather the following: George Shafer, the great-grandfather of Dr. Shafer, came to Loudoun County, Virginia, from Germany in an early day, but just how many members composed his family was not definitely learned. His son, Siegfried, left Loudoun County and went to Bedford, now Fulton County, Pennsylvania, where he married Mrs. Mary Fisher, a widow whose maiden name was Hess. To this union were born six children: George, Balser, John, Jacob H., Mary, who married J. C. Snyder, and Abraham, all of whom grew to mature years, married and reared families. Dr. Shafer's history speaks of seven generations on the Shafer side of the house, 160 members now living, all descendants of Siegfried Shafer. The family history shows that most of them have been agriculturists, and that they are orderly, virtuous, law-abiding, religious citizens. A photograph was taken of the family on this memorable occasion, by W. C. Shafer, the doctor's son. Dr. Shafer's oldest brother is now the oldest Shafer living, his age at this writing, 1895, being about seventy years. All his brothers and sisters are living except the youngest, George, who died at forty years of age, about ten years ago. Dr. Shafer is now completing a home in the Shaw addition to Terra Alta, which will be known as "Maplewood."

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## JUDGE NATHAN GOFF.

The personal life of a distinguished citizen is always interesting, not only to the philosopher who delights to follow the gradually expanding mind, from the weakness of youth, to the full maturity of manhood, and to mark the effect of even trifling causes, in ennobling or debasing the mind, and in forming character; but also, in a degree, to all whose interest in mankind is not entirely lost in self.

Materials for the biography of a public man are to be found in the history of the events in which he was an actor. In our own country this is particularly true. It is perhaps hardly to be regretted that the private lives of our distinguished men are in some measure sacred from the offensive notoriety that is the lot and penalty of eminence in other countries. The numerous





*W. G. H.*  
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dependents upon the periodical press of Great Britain, for instance, deem themselves privileged to annoy men of reputation, by what they term sketches of their lives. They pick up garbled and inaccurate stories, invent a few leading incidents, and to complete the biography, fasten upon its unfortunate subject a few of the most popular anecdotes that have been current for generations. These accounts circulate for the truth and a man is often obliged to see himself the hero of battles that he never fought, and an actor on boards that he never trod. We are glad this is rarely resorted to in America. Correct biography lies alone in detailing one's acts in the shaping of events during the time in which he lived. Although still by no means an old man, the subject of this sketch has been prominent for many years as a citizen of his native State.

Nathan Goff, son of Waldo P. Goff, was born at Clarksburg, Virginia, February 9, 1842. His father came from New York to Harrison County, Virginia, in the early part of the present century, and became a merchant. He lived to be eighty-six years of age, and died at his Clarksburg home, having spent a long and useful life in his adopted Mountain State. Nathan, like his father before him, has a perfect physique, and seems to be constructed to live a hundred years. He is of medium height, compactly built, well formed, and weighs about one hundred and seventy-five pounds. He is deliberate and calculating, and is the personification of modesty and suavity. His family are all long-lived. At the age of seventy his father was as vigorous and sprightly as he was at forty. His uncles all lived to a ripe old age. One of them—Nathan Goff, Sr.—who was a prominent citizen of Harrison County, both in business and politics, for more than half a century, died at the age of ninety.

Young Goff received his education in the Northwestern Academy, at Clarksburg, and at Georgetown College, District of Columbia. The war coming on in 1861, when he was a student at Georgetown, and a boy of only nineteen, fired with that loyalty to our institutions peculiar to the stock from which he sprung, he closed his books a short time before graduation and shouldered a musket as a private soldier in Company G, Third Virginia Infantry. He was, however, a private soldier only a few days. His comrades, seeing something above the average in the face of the young collegian, took him up, and made him a lieutenant of the company. The rule demonstrated in the late Civil War, that college young men made the best of soldiers, was more than sustained in the military career of young Nathan Goff. From the very beginning, his company and regiment were ushered into active service. The duties he rendered his country in the hour

of her peril were not perfunctory. They were, on the contrary, severe and trying. He participated in the battles of McDowell, Port Republic, Winchester, Droop Mountain, Second Bull Run, Antietam, Rocky Gap, Cross Keys, Rappahannock Station and other minor engagements. For bravery on the field, and for tact in the manipulation of men, Lieutenant Goff was promoted to Major of his regiment. During the latter part of the war, Major Goff served with General W. W. Averill's command; and was taken prisoner at Moorefield, West Virginia, January 20, 1864. He was immediately sent to Richmond and was confined four months in the noted Libby Prison. He was held as a hostage for Major Armsey, a prominent Confederate officer, who was likewise incarcerated in a United States prison within the Federal lines. Major Goff endured his prison confinement at Libby with that same degree of courage which characterized his engagements in open battle with the enemy. Of the final results he seemed to not entertain the slightest fear. He absolutely appeared to have no sort of care whether he lived or died—whether he was to be starved or shot and be buried in some lone spot, unhonored and unknown, if by such tragic end his country might live on, and her Constitution and laws be respected by every citizen beneath the flag.

"Let the world go 'round and 'round,  
And the sun sink into the sea!  
For whether I'm on or under the ground,  
Oh, what will it matter to me?"

This imprisonment tended to bring out his strongest traits of character; he never flinched nor murmured, but waited upon his fate like a strong man. He was a great favorite among the prisoners before his solitary confinement began, and his selection as a hostage for Major Armsey caused great feeling among them, as well as at his home, where he was so well known and a general favorite. As soon as the Federal Government had been notified that he would be shot if Armsey was executed, naturally his powerful friends made great effort to save his life. For weeks the decision hung in the balance a feather's weight would have turned, and he and his comrades were suffering not only the tortures of half-fed, closely-confined prisoners of war, but a terrible uncertainty as to their fate, that was even worse than prison treatment. It was while being thus tried, as in a crucible, that he gave evidence of a strength of character as unexpected as it is rare in man. In a letter to President Lincoln in relation to his confinement, now on file in

the war office, the following striking passage occurs, which may well find place in history, among the annals of great men, and of itself a warrant to honorable fame:

“If Major Armsey is guilty he should be executed, regardless of its consequences to me. The life of a single soldier, no matter who he may be, should not stand in the way of adherence to a great principle.”

When Major Goff was released from Libby Prison and returned within the Federal lines, he was immediately sent for by Secretary Stanton, the great war secretary, who accompanied him to President Lincoln. Both of these eminent men requested the young Major to give them a detailed statement of his sufferings and the general condition of the Federal prisoners of war in Libby Prison. He cheerfully complied. For quite awhile there had been a suspension of the exchange of prisoners. Major Goff's statements made such a marked impression upon the minds of the President and his Secretary of War that in a very short time a general exchange of prisoners was announced.

But a little time had elapsed after his return to his regiment when Major Armsey, for whom he had been held as hostage and exchanged, was again captured by the Union forces and was under guard at Clarksburg. The news had no sooner become known among the people and the soldiers of the town, that the one for whom Major Goff had so greatly suffered was in their power, than his life was in danger. Just at this time Major Goff happened to come down from Grafton to his home, and he at once stayed the fury of the citizens by saying to the angry crowd: “Let no friend of mine lay a hand upon this man; he is entitled to our protection as a prisoner of war.” The act and these words, beyond all question, saved the life of Major Armsey, as the latter has many times testified. This incident in the life of the young soldier shows the inherent principles of justice that imbued his character while he was yet a boy; and he used, as he had need, all of his great personal popularity among his townsmen to save the prisoner's life. It is needless to give more evidence of his soldierly character than this, from the beginning to its end, it attests at once the bravery and generosity of the man; the two elements of character that make the perfect soldier.

At the close of hostilities, Major Goff was made a Brevet Brigadier-General for gallantry on the field of battle, and was among the youngest generals in the Union army—being only twenty-three years of age when he received his commission. In March, 1865, General Goff was honorably discharged from the volunteer service. He promptly entered the University of New York, and in two years graduated as a Bachelor of Laws. He immedi-

ately began the practice of law in the courts of West Virginia at his old home in Clarksburg.

His first office was a member of the House of Delegates of West Virginia, to which he was elected from Harrison County in 1867, and re-elected in 1868.

His next position of trust was that of United States District Attorney for the District of West Virginia, to which he was appointed by President Grant in August, 1869. He was at that time a mere novice in the law. Indeed, he had never tried an important case in court. Somehow—he can scarcely account for it himself—he filled the office from the very first with great acceptability. He met the ablest lawyers in the State in important cases, and never made a failure in the management of a cause. For thirteen years he filled this important trust, and left a record as a government solicitor equal to the very best of his brother District Attorneys.

January 6, 1880, General Goff was nominated by President Hayes, to the Senate of the United States to be Secretary of the Navy, and was immediately confirmed as such, in Executive Session, by that august body, January 7. He accepted the portfolio, and continued in President Hayes' Cabinet until the close of his administration.

General Goff has been many times before the people of West Virginia for official position, but it can be truthfully said that with but one exception, he was nominated not from his own seeking, but by the demands of the people. The exception referred to was in 1870, when he was nominated for Congress, and in that contest was defeated. In 1872, he was again nominated for the same position, and again was defeated. In 1876 the Republican State Convention nominated him for Governor by acclamation after he had absolutely declined to accept, if nominated. He was literally forced into making the contest. The history of that political campaign is one of the most noticeable in the record of American politics. For three months General Goff traveled over the entire State, often walking miles over the mountains to speak to a handful of people; frequently driving an hundred and more miles into the mountain fastnesses to keep his engagements and to carry out the programme he had made to meet the people of every county in the State. His speeches were brilliant efforts, and drew the people around him to such an extent that he ran ahead of his ticket in every county, notwithstanding the proverbial prejudices of the people toward the party he represented, and especially against a man who bore a musket in opposition to the Southern Confederacy. In that campaign, General Goff made for himself a national reputation as a debater and stump speaker.

In 1882, again against his will, General Goff was the nominee of the Republican party for Congress in the First District. His campaign was conducted in the most systematic manner, and notwithstanding the district had gone Democratic by a large majority at the preceding election, he was elected by a majority of 1,867. In 1884 he was again his party's candidate for the same position, and again he begged that another should bear the flag as nominee. Once more he was victorious, but by the small majority of 204. In 1886 he was drafted into the service another time, and increased his majority above eight hundred. This gave him six full years in Congress; years that he used to the advantage of his country, his party and himself. His high order of talent, coupled with his vast knowledge of measures and men, gave him a prominent position in the House of Representatives. As a parliamentary orator, as a debater on an issue squarely joined, when the position had been chosen and the ground laid out, General Goff must be assigned a very high rank. There never was a time in his public life that he did not fully measure up to his party's expectations. He never fell short of fully satisfying his admirers and friends. In the House of Representatives as at the bar and on the hustings, he never failed to acquit himself with fresh laurels. Of such a Representative, well may the people be justly proud.

In 1888, the Republican State Convention held at Charleston, again nominated General Goff as its gubernatorial standard-bearer. Bravely he insisted that he was no candidate, and did not want position, but coming to him by acclamation, as this nomination came, when almost every county in the State was represented in the convention, he felt that he dare not refuse. He entered upon an extended canvass which encompassed the State, meeting the ablest men in the Democratic party in joint debate, and making by odds the greatest canvass ever carried out in West Virginia. For weeks after the election, it was not known whether he or his opponent was successful, because of closeness of the contest. The final official announcement was given out that Nathan Goff's apparent plurality over A. B. Fleming, his Democratic opponent, was one hundred and ten. This was deeply gratifying to the gallant General's personal friends, because the same official announcement that gave him a small plurality, showed that the remainder of the Republican ticket was defeated in the State by an average majority of about five hundred.

The charge of illegal voting was made against the Republican party, and notice of contest by Judge Fleming was promptly served on General Goff. The Legislature, which under the law is the body before which a gubernatorial contest must be settled, convened in January, 1889. The Democrats had

one of a majority on joint ballot. Party lines were closely drawn. The Speaker of the House of Delegates refused to open and publish the returns of the election for Governor, claiming that it was not his duty to make such publication while a contest was pending. The Legislature, after sitting its statutory forty-five days, adjourned. The 4th of March came—the day upon which the law requires the Governor to begin his term of office. General Goff, claiming that he had been duly elected by a majority of one hundred and ten votes, took the oath of office in the State House at Charleston and demanded of Governor Wilson that the Governor's office should be delivered over to him. Governor Wilson refused to recognize General Goff as the legal Governor of the State, claiming that he himself should retain possession of the office until the Legislature decided which had been elected by the people—Goff or Fleming.

Hon. Robert S. Carr, president of the State Senate, who by virtue of his office is the de facto Lieutenant-Governor of the State, set up a claim to the Governor's chair, maintaining that Governor Wilson's term of four years having expired at noon, March 4, he could therefore no longer claim to be Governor; and that inasmuch as the Speaker of the House, in the presence of a majority of both branches of the Legislature, had failed and refused to open and publish the returns for Governor, as required by the plain provisions of the Constitution, therefore General Goff could not, because of such disability, legally take possession of the office, consequently he as the ex-officio Governor should act as Governor de facto until the Legislature settled the pending contest between Goff and Fleming.

All three of the claimants of the Governor's office amicably agreed, in order to avoid bloodshed, to submit their cases to the Supreme Court of Appeals for adjudication. Each claimant appeared by counsel before the Court, and ably argued every feature of the law involved, and the Court in a very few days, decided that Governor Wilson should continue in office until the Goff-Fleming contest was settled by the Legislature.

Before adjournment, the Legislature appointed a committee of five members—three from the House and two from the Senate—with instructions to examine with care all the evidences of fraud in the election of 1888, which might be presented to them by both Goff and Fleming. This contest ended by Judge Fleming being seated as Governor, a position to which a majority of the citizens of the State believe General Goff to have been legally elected.

In 1884, General Goff was elected chairman of the National Republican Congressional Executive Committee, and managed its affairs so success-



fully and satisfactorily that in 1888 he was unanimously re-elected to that responsible position. For ten or fifteen years past he has taken part in national campaigns, speaking in every portion of the country. He is almost constantly in demand to deliver addresses before clubs and associations in many of the States of the Union.

General Goff has long been the idol of the Republican party in West Virginia. No man so fully represents its fighting forces as he. In the argument of a case before a jury, he possesses the peculiar faculty of reading the mind of each juror and knowing in advance how he will decide. This is a rare faculty, and has assisted him greatly in the practice of his profession. While he is well up in all branches of the law, he is *per se* a jury lawyer. His success in that line of practice has been phenomenal.

He is a man of much magnetism, and possesses stability of character, strong convictions, and is unswerving in the path of duty. His mind has received the training and discipline of a third of a century of active toil, and the invigoration of countless collisions in intellectual gladiatorship, both in temples of justice and upon the hustings—ever wielding the cimeter of argument with manliness and dignity. In all his public discussions he has been conservative, appealing always to the pure and elevated judgment, and not to the passions or prejudices of the people. He is naturally good humored, and is one of the most genial of companions.

He married Miss Laura E. Despard, a lady of great moral and social worth, and a daughter of Colonel Burton Despard, an old and honored resident of Clarksburg. Two sons have been born to this union: Guy D., a graduate of Kenyon College, the Harvard Law School, and who is now successfully practicing his profession at Milwaukee, Wisconsin; W. P. Goff, the second son, is a practicing physician of Clarksburg, being a graduate of the well-known Jefferson Medical College. In 1892, General Goff was appointed Judge of the United States Circuit by President Harrison, a position for which he is pre-eminently fitted.

Concerning his qualities as a man, it is not necessary to speak in detail. He could not have made the record he has without superior attributes. His political acts speak with more eloquence than could mere words, and testify to the strong qualities of mind that have made him noted and respected by all classes, at home and abroad. His mental traits and genial manners have made him the associate, and gained for him the friendship, of the leading men of the Nation.

General Goff is a man of destiny—albeit he himself hews the stepping-stones by which one alone can ascend the temple of fame. The world has

need of such men, and the future undoubtedly holds greater honors in store for him.

The Columbian University at Washington, D. C., in 1888, conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, an honor, all will concede, worthily bestowed.

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## D. N. SHAFFER.

Classed among the first of the energetic, far-seeing and successful business men of Rowlesburg, West Virginia, is D. N. Shaffer, who is a successful contractor and builder of the same. For the past twenty-five years he has been engaged in contracting and building and the many substantial and handsome structures in the county are the monuments of his handiwork. This worthy citizen was born in Preston County, West Virginia, August 17, 1846, to the union of John and Catherine (Sell) Shaffer, both natives of this State, and the latter of this county. The grandfather, T. Shaffer, was born in Preston County, near Aurora, but his father, Adam Shaffer, was a native of Prussia, and one of the honored first settlers of this county. The first representative of the Sell family located in Preston County soon after the close of the Revolution. Henry Sell, the grandfather of our subject, served his country in the War of 1812. T. Shaffer was a gunsmith and millwright, and one of the first school teachers of Preston County. He was well and favorably known to the early settlers of the county, and died at the age of seventy-two years.

John Shaffer, Jr., was born in the year 1818, and well remembers the rude and uncultivated appearance of the country in 1835. As he grew older he delighted in hunting, and as a Nimrod was noted far and wide. Many a deer and bear fell at the crack of his trusty rifle. He lived to be seventy years of age, dying in 1888, December 25. His wife survives him. D. N. Shaffer is the eldest of a family of six sons and one daughter, all of whom reached mature years. Isaac L. Shaffer, next to our subject, is a contractor and builder of Rowlesburg; J. B. Shaffer, a farmer of this county; Jesse H., a farmer; Lizzie, wife of Warner Evans, a farmer of this county; Henry F., a farmer of Preston County, and Josiah H., a carpenter of Keyser, West Virginia. During his youth, our subject attended the common schools of Preston County, and served a three years' apprenticeship at the carpenter

trade. After this for three years he worked under instruction, and then began contracting and building. In 1870, he located in Rowlesburgh, and has followed his business here ever since. He has erected many of the finest residences and business houses in the town and surrounding country, and all are models of beauty and durability. Our subject has also operated a planing mill here for other parties, for the past fourteen years, and for the past ten years he has been millwrighting. Mr. Shaffer was married here first, about 1871, to Miss Mary F. Hewitt, a native of this county, who died about 1872. One daughter, Amy, was born to this union. She is now the wife of A. Fretwell, of Rowlesburgh. Mr. Shaffer selected his second wife in the person of Miss N. R. Pugh, and their marriage was celebrated in Preston County, in 1874. Four children have been born to this union: Mattie E., Bertie M., Olive L. and Florence M. Three of their children died in early childhood. A staunch Democrat in politics, Mr. Shaffer cast his first Presidential vote for Horace Greeley. He served on the town board one term, and has held other positions. Socially he is an Odd Fellow, a member of the Knights of Pythias, and American Mechanics. Both he and wife are members of the Protestant Methodist Church. Mr. Shaffer has been a resident of Preston County nearly his entire life, and is deeply interested in its upbuilding and progress. He is enterprising and progressive, and is well-known for his uprightness and integrity.

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## FRANCIS BROTHERS.

The subjects of this sketch, though still young men, have attained prominence in business matters that men ordinarily reach only after years of patient toil, and achieved success, of which any man might justly be proud. Few men are more closely identified with the larger interests of Harrison County than these brothers, William and Michael J. Francis, who are natives of this county, born at Cherry Camp, the former in 1860, and the latter in 1862. Their parents are Thomas and Bridget (Maloney) Francis, both of whom came from Galway, Ireland. The father came to the United States about the year 1849, when about twenty years of age, and subsequently was married in Clarksburg to Miss Maloney. He assisted in the grading

of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad here and has been a laborer all his life. He resides at Wilsonburg. Mr. Francis had one brother, John, who came to the United States, but died in Maine a few years later. Mr. and Mrs. Francis became the parents of nine children: William, Peter, Michael J., Mary (deceased), Dehlia, Anna, who is bookkeeper for her brothers; Thomas, John (deceased) and Mary. Our subjects, William and Michael J., were educated in the common schools and afterward followed mining until 1884, by which time they had saved about \$1,000. Investing this sum in goods they began merchandising at Wilsonburg on a small scale, and by their energy, perseverance and excellent business acumen, and by giving especial attention to business they have built up a very large trade. They are classed among the leading merchants of the county, and do an annual business of about \$30,000. Few men of the county, who are still in their early manhood, have reached a more enviable position in the community, and none are more deserving of mention than these self-made men. They are fitted in every respect for the business they are now following, being courteous, genial and upright. It is certainly true that their success is deserved, as they have always transacted the business affairs with which they were entrusted in such a manner as to merit the approval of all interested. Aside from their merchandising business they are interested in real estate transactions and have met with success in this direction. Michael J. is Postmaster at Wilsonburg. Both are Democrats in their political views, and are members of the order of St. George.

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## M. C. GIBSON.

The calling to which Mr. Gibson's attention is devoted is one of the utmost importance to any community and is deserving of liberal patronage from the inhabitants. His well-appointed mercantile establishment is located at Tunnelton, West Virginia, and there he also has charge of the interests of "Uncle Sam," and presides over the postoffice. He is a native of the county in which he now resides and was born February 18, 1845, a son of James Gibson, and grandson of another James Gibson, both of whom were born in Preston County. The great-grandfather, Thomas Gibson, was of Scotch-Irish descent, was one of the first settlers of the northern part of Preston County, and there opened up a large farm. James Gibson, father

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of the subject of this sketch, grew up in this county and was here united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Cramer, a native of Maryland, and daughter of Peter Cramer, who moved to this section from near Frederick, Maryland. After his marriage, Mr. Gibson settled near Tunnelton in about 1840, on a woodland farm, whereon he built a substantial log house, and while clearing and improving his property his family was growing up around him. He still resides on the farm where so many of the active years of his life have been spent, and is a hale and intelligent old gentleman of some eighty-two years. His wife, the bride of his youth, passed away in 1890. Of the eight children born to them all but one grew to maturity and became the heads of families. M. C. Gibson was the fourth of this family, and while assisting in the improvement of the home farm he gained health and strength and also learned lessons of industry and economy. In July, 1863, he enlisted in Company B, Fourth West Virginia Cavalry, and took part in a few minor engagements. At the expiration of his term (March, 1864) he was honorably discharged and returned home. He finished his literary education in Millsbury Normal College, of Washington County, Pennsylvania, after which he spent one year in teaching school in Preston County. From 1867 to 1868 he lived in Henry County, Iowa, then returned to Preston County, West Virginia, and engaged in the manufacture of lumber near Tunnelton in a modest way, his plant being propelled by water power at first, and later by steam. He is now the owner of one fine steam mill, owns a half interest in another and manufactures on an average 10,000 feet of lumber daily, the most of which he ships to other points, although he has a domestic trade also. This business amounts to \$20,000 annually. He is also engaged in merchandising under the firm name of M. C. Gibson & Bro., which business was established in a small way in 1875. He has increased his stock from year to year as his patronage demanded and as his means permitted, and although he is doing a large business it is constantly on the increase. His activity and energy have been rewarded and he is now one of the well-to-do men of the county. Mr. Gibson was married in Henry County, Iowa, in 1869, to Miss Mary Anna Jackson, a native of Ohio, but reared and educated in Indiana, a daughter of Alexander Jackson, who settled in Henry County, Iowa, during the war, and there eventually passed from life. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Gibson are as follows: B. T., who was educated in the University of Morgantown, is a successful teacher of Preston County, and is married; James C., Joseph V. and Bessie, all at home. Politically, Mr. Gibson is a Democrat and has always taken considerable interest in local politics, being at the present time a member of the County Democratic Central Com-

mittee. Since 1893, he has held the office of Postmaster of Tunnelton. He is also a patron of education and for some ten years served as a member of the Board of Education. Mr. and Mrs. Gibson are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, are widely known and have many friends throughout Preston County.

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## THOMAS M'CLURE GARVIN.

Few men have exerted a more salutary influence upon the immediate society in which they move, or impressed a community with a more profound reliance on their honor, ability and sterling worth than Thomas McClure Garvin. His life has not been illustrious with startling incidents or striking contrasts, but it has shown how a laudable ambition may be gratified when accompanied by pure motives, persevering industry and steadfastness of purpose. His career illustrates that the genius of success is the genius of hard work and close application. He is an off-shoot of the sturdy Scotch-Irish stock, to which he is undoubtedly indebted for the persevering characteristic of his make-up. He was born in Ohio County, West Virginia, August 1, 1854, the son of John S. and Susan A. (Little) Garvin, who were born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, and Somerset County, New Jersey, in 1824 and 1831, respectively. In 1832, John S. Garvin came to Ohio County, West Virginia, and located on a farm on which he and his wife still live. The family came to America during the colonial history of this country, the first to migrate thither being James Garvin, who came from the North of Ireland sometime in 1700 and took up his residence at Newcastle, Pennsylvania, and later in Belmont County, Ohio, where the paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, David Garvin, was born early in 1786 and died in 1871. He was a soldier of the War of 1812, and by trade was a miller and speculated in flour, which he would take by water to New Orleans and dispose of. In 1832, he bought the farm on which John S. Garvin and his wife now reside, and it has thus been in the possession of the family over three score years. The family of David Garvin consisted of three sons and a daughter: David B., who is a farmer of Ohio County; James, who died in Illinois; John S., of Ohio County, and Mrs. Robert White (deceased), of Marshall County, West Virginia. The maternal grand-

father of the subject of this sketch, William Little, was born in Somerset County, New Jersey, in 1798, whose father was a tailor by trade and a soldier of the Revolutionary War. He also came from the North of Ireland. He made many suits of clothes for General Washington, and the subject of this sketch now has in his possession an account book in which there are charges against the General. The brothers and sisters of Thomas McClure Garvin are as follows: David M., who resides in Cleveland, Ohio, and is an oil merchant of Houston, Texas; J. B., the editor and publisher of the Ohio Valley Farmer, of Wheeling; Daniel M., who is a dairyman of Ohio County; Ida, wife of John A. Hooven, a potteryman of Wheeling; Lizzie L., who is an office and court stenographer; M. Ella, who resides at home, and Charles E., a law student. On the farm near Wheeling the early life of Thomas McClure Garvin was spent, but his education is mainly the result of a combination of study and practical experience in commercial pursuits, although he received the rudiments of his education in the public and private schools. At the age of twenty he completed a course of study in a college in Cleveland, Ohio, after which he went to San Francisco, California, where he entered a mercantile establishment as cashier and salesman, which position he held for about four years. While thus engaged he devoted his unemployed hours to the study of the Spanish language in Phillippies' School of Languages. Later he was appointed Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court of Colusa County, California, but through the advice of friends and following a natural inclination he began the study of law, pursuing his studies in the East. He was admitted to the senior class in the law school of the Cincinnati College, from which he graduated in May, 1885, with the degree of LL. B. He was admitted to practice in all the courts of record in Ohio in Columbus, and soon after came to Wheeling and entered upon the practice of his profession. He has made a specialty of commercial law and by close application to his calling has bravely conquered the many difficulties that always confront a beginner in the legal profession, has won his way to success and now enjoys a lucrative practice. He was a member of the council of the City of Wheeling from 1887 to 1889; was official court reporter for six years, and a lecturer on commercial law in the Wheeling Business College since 1885, which position he still holds. He is local attorney for the Bradstreet Company, is chief counsel for the Garvin Mercantile Agency. He is editor of the law department of the Ohio Valley Farmer, which paper he established in 1883, and he also publishes Garvin's Legal Directory. Socially he is a member of Wheeling Lodge No. 9, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, and Knights of the Golden

Eagle of which he is Past Grand Chief. He organized the Ohio County Bar Association, of which he was an official for a number of years, and also assisted in the organization of the West Virginia Bar Association, which has grown to be one of the leading organizations of the kind in the country. In 1887, Mr. Garvin was united in marriage with Miss Jean McCrum, of this county. They have a beautiful home in Leatherwood, two miles from the city; their residence was erected in 1889, and is surrounded by extensive, beautiful and well-kept grounds. They move in the highest social circles of Wheeling, and have many warm friends. He is a trustee of the United Presbyterian Church, of Wheeling. He is punctual, strictly honest in all his professional and business transactions, and is a firm believer in the doctrine that "right will triumph." His sterling integrity and close adherence to true business principles has won for him the confidence and respect of a large number of the best people in business circles wherever he is known.

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## HON. JOHN P. JONES.

This gentleman is regarded as one of the most influential and worthy citizens of Preston County, West Virginia, and it is a pleasure to chronicle herein the events that mark his life as one of usefulness. Material wealth must not exclude the riches of character and ability in recounting the virtues which have been brought to this country by its citizens, and the lives of those who have, by their intelligence and eminence in the higher walks of life, assisted in raising the standard of life and thought in the communities in which they have lived, are of the utmost importance. No one has probably done more in this respect than Hon. John P. Jones, who was born in Aberarron, Wales, June 21, 1832, of which country his parents, Daniel and Mary (Davis) Jones, were also natives, the former being a cousin of Michael Jones, who established a colony in Patagonia, which has since prospered. Upon his arrival in this country in 1837, Daniel Jones first located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he followed his trade of blacksmith for several years. He then moved to Ebensburgh, Cambria County, Pennsylvania, where he carried on a successful business and spent the last years of his life, his death occurring in September, 1894, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years, his wife's death having occurred in 1875. The following are the children born to





Mr. P. Jones



this worthy couple: David J. is assistant treasurer of the Cambria Iron Company, of Johnstown, Pennsylvania; John P., Eliza, wife of Dr. Walters, a leading physician of Johnstown, Pennsylvania; Daniel became a Union soldier, and while leading his company as Captain in the battle of the Wilderness, fell by the hand of the enemy; Thomas D. was in the same company as his brother Daniel, was wounded at the battle of Bull Run and now resides in the Soldiers' Home, in Erie, Pennsylvania, and Mary, wife of Benjamin Jones, resides on the old Jones homestead at Ebensburg, Pennsylvania. The youth and early manhood of John P. Jones were spent in Pennsylvania, but unfortunately his educational advantages were limited. Although almost wholly self-educated he is a well-informed and intelligent man and possesses superior business qualifications. At the age of eighteen he was employed as a clerk by Ezekiel Hughes at Ebensburg, with whom he remained eight years during which time he received a thorough and practical business training. He then formed a business partnership and was engaged in merchandising in that city for four years, after which the business was disposed of and Mr. Jones engaged in the lumber business in Philadelphia, where he labored successfully up to 1863, when he sold out and moved to Terra Alta, West Virginia. Soon after coming here he purchased a half interest in an established business and again engaged in mercantile pursuits, but became sole proprietor of the establishment in 1870, and continued in the business until 1880, when he sold out. During his residence here Mr. Jones has done much to improve and build up the town and has erected and assisted in erecting some thirty-five residences and business houses. He was one of the prime movers in the establishment of the Terra Alta Flouring Mills, of which he was a part owner for ten years, and has done more to make the town the flourishing place that it is than any other one man in it. He has been identified with the Republican party since its organization in 1856, and his first Presidential vote was cast for John C. Fremont, since which time he has supported every Presidential candidate of the Republican party. Besides holding numerous local positions of trust and honor, he was elected to represent Preston County in the State Legislature in 1870 and again in 1871-2. In 1876, he was elected to the State Senate, in which body he served with distinction for four years and labored faithfully for the interests of his party and section. In 1887 he was once more elected to the State Legislature, his repeated elections speaking more eloquently than words can do as to his popularity and capability. While a member of the legislative body he served on the finance and other important committees and made a useful and incorruptible legislator. He has served as a delegate to numerous State, county

and district conventions and for years was a member of the Board of County Commissioners and at the present time is the president of that body. Being a patron of education and deeply interested in the public schools he has been a member of the school board for ten years. He was married in Ebensburgh, Pennsylvania, April 17, 1865, to Miss Hannah E. Rogers, who was born near that town and educated in Ohio. Her father, George Rogers, is now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Jones the following children were born: Harriet B. is a successful physician and surgeon of Wheeling, West Virginia. She has been an active and successful practitioner for about eight years, and formerly had charge of the female department of the insane asylum at Weston. Scott T. is the cashier of the Garrett & Co.'s Bank at Oakland, Maryland; Adaline is the wife of William T. White, a successful merchant of Terra Alta, West Virginia; Cora C. is at home, and another daughter who married and died leaving one child, a daughter. The mother of these children was called from life October 12, 1894, and is buried in the Terra Alta cemetery. Mr. Jones, his father, and his son, Scott T., have all been prominent in the Presbyterian Church, and all have served it in the capacity of elder. Mr. Jones has always manifested great interest in the Sabbath School, being an energetic and untiring worker and has and is now serving his twenty-seventh year as superintendent. Mr. Jones has been a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons since he was twenty-one years of age, being now a member of Grafton Lodge, of Grafton, and is also Past Chancellor of Alpine Lodge of Knights of Pythias, Terra Alta. Mr. Jones may be said to be a man among men and the world, and especially the section in which he has so long made his home, is better for his having lived in it. The confidence and esteem of all is accorded him and he is now living in retirement and in the enjoyment of a large circle of friends and a comfortable competency.

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### DR. J. H. MANOWN.

The old age of a physician who is respected for his merit is an honorable old age. This observation by Zimmerman is well exemplified in Dr. Manown, who has attained the age of seventy-three years, and has been a resident of Kingwood since the year 1854. He is one of the oldest physicians of Preston County, and is well and favorably known in Northern West Virginia. He

is a product of Pennsylvania, born in Allegheny County, November 22, 1822. His father, James Manown, was a native of Ireland, but at an early date came to this country and settled in Allegheny County, where he married Miss Cassandra Devore, who was born in Pennsylvania. Mr. Manown was a tiller of the soil, but in connection carried on the mechanic's trade, and met with fair success in both industries. His eldest son, Franklin Manown, grew to manhood in Pennsylvania, received his education there, and in selecting an occupation in life chose farming, which he carried on for many years, principally during the latter part of his life. Earlier he was engaged in manufacturing glass in Monongahela County, and was also engaged in merchandising there, but subsequently returned to the old homestead, where he still resides, hale and hearty, at the age of eighty-three years. The father died on the old homestead after reaching the advanced age of ninety-four years. The youth of Dr. Manown was spent in his native county, and he there received unusually good educational advantages, attending the college at Washington, Pennsylvania, and the academy of Monongahela City. After finishing at the latter institution he went to Ohio, where he studied medicine with Dr. David Beard, of Franklin, Warren County, that State. Entering Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, he completed his course there in 1844, and soon after located at Vincennes, where he entered upon a successful practice. About a year later he moved to Greensburg, Pennsylvania, where he practiced his profession about four years. In 1854, he came to Kingwood and was very successful in his practice here, continuing the same up to 1863, when he enlisted in the Fourteenth West Virginia Infantry, and was appointed first surgeon of the same, holding that position for two years, or until the close of the war. Returning to Kingwood he resumed the practice of medicine and later was appointed physician of the male department of the asylum under Governor Wilson. This was in 1884 and he filled that position very capably for four years, when he returned to Kingwood. He has served on the Board of Pension Examiners a number of years and has held other positions, equally as important. Politically he has always been a zealous and active Democrat and is a true follower of Jackson. With but few exceptions he has always voted for men of that party, but he branched off in 1864 and voted for Lincoln, and again in 1868, voted for General Grant. The doctor has never cared for political honors, but has given his entire time and attention to his profession. He is an active and leading member of the West Virginia Medical Society, and was one of the foremost physicians in organizing the same. Dr. Manown was married in Kingwood in 1856 to Miss Mary I. Armstrong, of Frederick County, Maryland, where

she was reared and educated. They have two children living: James F., cashier of the Philippi Bank, and Edward C., who resides in Baltimore, where he holds a responsible business position. Both sons are married. The doctor and wife lost one daughter, Lititia, who passed away when seven years old. Dr. Manown is a Royal Arch Mason and is a member of Kingwood Blue Lodge and Chapter. He is a charter member of Kingwood Lodge and one of its oldest members. Both Dr. and Mrs. Manown are worthy members of the Kingwood Presbyterian Church. No man has labored more earnestly to advance the material interests of the city than the doctor, and no man has more fully gained the confidence and good will of all. He has been unusually successful in his chosen profession and has traveled over Preston and adjoining counties in all kinds of weather, when settlers were far more scattering than at the present time.

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## JOHNSON NEWLON CAMDEN.

One of the most successful men West Virginia has ever produced is the subject of this sketch. He was born at Collins Settlement, Lewis County, Virginia, March 6, 1828. His grandfather emigrated from Maryland to that county about the beginning of the present century, and there reared his family, which included four sons, all of whom have made their mark upon the history of the State. One of them, John S. Camden, the father of Johnson N. Camden, intermarried with the Newlon family of Lewis County, and moved to Sutton, the seat of justice of Braxton County, in the spring of 1838.

Young Johnson N. Camden, one of the children of this marriage, spent his early boyhood in Braxton County. He had the benefit of the limited schooling which that section then afforded.

In 1842, at the age of fourteen, he went to Weston and entered the office of the County Clerk of Lewis County as an assistant, remaining there a year or two. Returning to school, he spent two years at the Northwestern Academy at Clarksburg and returned to Braxton, serving a year as Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court of that county under his uncle, Colonel William Newlon. At the age of eighteen he received an appointment to the Military Academy at West Point, and after two years' study there resigned his

cadetship and taking up a course of legal study was admitted to the bar in 1851. He served as Commonwealth Attorney of Braxton, and subsequently for Nicholas County, became interested in surveying and secured possession of several tracts of wild lands in these counties, and in 1853 went to Weston, in Lewis County, and accepted a position in the bank there, holding it for the next four years. A feeling that he needed more active employment and a wider field induced him to quit the bank in 1857, and soon after becoming convinced that his abilities lay in the direction of promoting new enterprises and industries rather than in the practice of law he gave up that profession as a means of a livelihood.

Up to this time his change of employment had doubtless been regarded as a misfortune by his friends, but his varied experience in a limited field fitted him admirably for the wider sphere that awaited him.

In 1859, he turned his attention to the West Virginia oil field, which was just beginning to attract notice at Burning Springs, on the Little Kanawha River. Petroleum had long disturbed the working of the salt wells at that point and those who operated them, referring to its injurious effect upon the salt, called it "devil's grease." There was but one oil well at the point which has since become famous in the history of West Virginia petroleum interests, when Mr. Camden organized a working company, leased a piece of land and began boring for oil with the rude appliances then in vogue. The oil lay near the surface. Within a few weeks a stream of crude petroleum poured out so rapidly that no provision could be made to control or store it, and as a temporary measure it was run through troughs into an old flatboat in the Little Kanawha, a few rods distant. Fortunately two thousand oil barrels had been forwarded a few days previously from New York to General Karnes, the owner of the only other well in that section. His well was not then producing. The barrels were turned over to Mr. Camden, filled by hand from the flatboat and shipped to Parkersburg, and the result of this first week's work to the company which he controlled was about \$23,000. This success induced a speculative fever, of which Mr. Camden was quick to take advantage. The property was rapidly being taken up or leased when he effected an arrangement to purchase one-half of the Rathbone tract from its owner, Mr. Rathbone, for \$100,000 and to work it henceforth in connection with that gentleman.

The would-be purchaser had scarcely a tenth of the sum required, but investors having faith in his sagacity came forward with offers for an interest with him, and he was able to sell three-fourths of his contract for \$100,000 and secure a fourth as his profit on the transaction. What the result of this

enterprise would have been, if the proposed arrangement for developing the tract had been carried out, cannot be told. The Civil War came on soon after the transfer of the property was made, the absence of many of the parties interested and who went South with the Confederacy, interfered with the payment of the consideration agreed upon and the contract was finally canceled by mutual consent. The West Virginia oil field being part of the debatable ground of the two armies and subject to hostile raids, soon became comparatively deserted. Nevertheless Mr. Camden did a profitable business there during the next three years. He arranged a partnership with John and J. C. Rathbone, the original owners of a most profitable oil tract, and developed that and other property in the West Virginia oil belt. Their business increased so that banking facilities were needed, and in the early part of 1862 the First National Bank of Parkersburg, one of the most successful banking institutions of the State, was organized with Mr. Camden as its President. During these years it is safe to say that he owned an interest, with one exception, in every oil-producing territory in the State of West Virginia, and the history of its oil-producing interests would be lacking its central figure if the part he took in its development were left unwritten.

In 1864, Mr. Camden made another change in his business, and perhaps no single act of his life better proved his keen foresight and accurate judgment in business matters at that time. During the early years of the war the Pennsylvania oil region began to take the lead in petroleum interests. The Pennsylvania oil tract was larger than that of West Virginia, and its wells were more enduring and reliable. The capital necessary for development was more readily concentrated there than in the new State, and Mr. Camden rightly judged that it was destined to take precedence as the oil-producing territory of the country. With these points settled he only waited an opportunity to transfer his capital and energy to another branch of the business. This opportunity came in 1866. In that year he and his partners sold their property on the Little Kanawha to parties in New York for \$410,000, and abandoning almost entirely the business of producing petroleum, began the work of refining the oil products of West Virginia and neighboring territory. He and his associates built ample storage tanks at Parkersburg and erected an extensive refinery at that point, which soon built up an extensive and profitable business. The diminution of the West Virginia oil field which had been anticipated, followed later, and the refinery at Parkersburg was frequently embarrassed for want of crude oil sufficient to run its stills, and while considering ways and means of obviating this difficulty, Mr. Camden came in contact with the Standard Oil Company,



-which was then just beginning its commercial career, and recognizing the futility of continuing independent action in the limited field which he had hitherto occupied, he formed the alliance with the Standard, known as the Camden Consolidated Oil Company, which was intended to embrace a friendly union of all refining interests in West Virginia. With this combination began Mr. Camden's wonderful financial career, which thenceforth and until this time has been one of unbroken prosperity. The Standard Oil Company, quick to recognize his executive ability, made him one of its directors, and gave him personal control of its West Virginia and Maryland combinations. The Parkersburg refinery became one of the great sources of supply for the South and West, and so continued until the necessities of trade and commerce required the transfer of a portion of its business to the seacoast. During its best years more than 300,000 barrels of refined oil were turned out annually, and upward of 15,000,000 of staves were used each year in the manufacture of the barrels in which the oil was transported to market. When the export business of the combination necessitated the removal of the refining interest to the seaboard, Mr. Camden brought about the union of the oil refineries of Baltimore under the single management of the Baltimore United Oil Company, an organization with \$1,000,000 capital, of which he was elected president.

One phase of Mr. Camden's career which has commended him to the admiration and affection of West Virginians has been his constant attention to the development of his native State. At home or abroad, whether engaged in enterprises which required the world for a field of action, or those which were limited to his own immediate neighborhood, he has never lost faith in the promise of the State as a mining, manufacturing, commercial and agricultural center, nor ceased his efforts to bring out its magnificent possibilities. When he began his work in the valley of the Little Kanawha the various sections of the State were unconnected by any satisfactory or reliable means of communication. The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad connected the Northern and Eastern Panhandles, but the Northern and Southern portions of the State were practically disconnected during a considerable portion of the year, and water transportation between them was at all times limited and unreliable, while the interior of the State still lay remote from the paths of progress and development. The improvement of the Little Kanawha River and the establishment of slackwater navigation from Parkersburg was the first public enterprise in which Mr. Camden bore a part, in connection with General Jackson and other enterprising citizens of the Little Kanawha Valley, and the work still stands as the pioneer of the splendid system of

river and harbor improvements now in progress on other streams of the Commonwealth. By the time this improvement was established he had made his earliest successful ventures in developing the oil interests of the State, and it is characteristic of the man that with the first fruits of his enterprise he undertook to open up the section in which his boyhood days were spent and around which his fondest associations clustered.

He joined in the project of a narrow-gauge railroad between Clarksburg and Weston, and with his accustomed vigor pushed it through to successful completion. Still later he joined with ex-Senator Henry G. Davis and others in the construction of the West Virginia Central Railroad: Of the Ohio River Railroad, between Wheeling and Huntington, it may be said that its existence is mainly due to Mr. Camden's zeal and energy.

A glance at the map shows the present and prospective value to the State of the railroad enterprises which Mr. Camden has been largely instrumental in securing. As before stated, the Ohio River Railroad follows the Ohio River from Wheeling to Huntington, and at Point Pleasant connects with the Kanawha and Ohio, furnishing a through route from Wheeling to Charleston, the State capital, and the coal fields of the Upper Kanawha.

The Monongahela River Railroad from Fairmont to Clarksburg develops one of the finest coal fields in the State, it being a continuation of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville veins into West Virginia. In connection with this road Mr. Camden also organized a coal and coke company, in which he is largely interested, with a large capital for the development of the coal and the erection of coke ovens along the line of the road.

Mr. Camden has never been a dickerer or speculator. He never organized a company into which he did not put his own money and energy, and in all his creations and operations he has been governed by broad business principles. Mr. Camden's political life has been marked by the same boldness and vigor which appear so prominently in his business history. He came to the front in 1867 as a leader of the movement to enfranchise citizens of the State who had been denied the right of suffrage for their adherence to the fortunes of the Southern Confederacy. The Conservative party, as those who supported this movement were termed, nominated him for Governor a year later, and he made an aggressive and well-organized campaign, but the operation of the disfranchising statutes reduced his support to the extent that he was defeated by 2,500 majority.

During the two years following an amendment was submitted to repeal the disfranchising clause of the State Constitution and modify other clauses of it not in harmony with amendments to the Federal Constitution already

adopted. Mr. Camden indorsed the proposed amendment throughout, and thereby prevented his renomination by the Democratic party of the State in 1870, but in 1872 the Democrats of the State again made him their standard-bearer, with the exception of those who united with the Republicans to defeat the new Constitution of the State, adopted in that year. This combination again deferred Mr. Camden's success, but rendered him none the less prominent among the leaders of his party. He had a large and devoted support in the Senatorial contest of 1874, and in 1880 was almost the unanimous choice of the Democratic caucus for United States Senator and was promptly elected by the Legislature of that year. At the expiration of his six years' term of service in the Senate, he was again the nominee of his party caucus for a second term, but by means of a disaffection in his party ranks—the majority on joint ballot being small—he was not re-elected, although he had the power to name and elect the gentleman who succeeded him March 4, 1887.

As a Senator, Mr. Camden was a worker rather than a talker, although he has the faculty of expressing his views clearly and forcefully when the necessity arises. His business experience, added to the professional training of his younger years, enabled him to take hold intelligently of the varied questions presented for the consideration of the Senate, and close attention to the duties of his position and courteous bearing toward his associates gave him a position and influence in that body which enabled him to represent the State ably and efficiently.

After retiring from the Senate, Mr. Camden was urged by his party friends to allow his name to be used in connection with a nomination for the gubernatorial office. He refused, declaring his intention of retiring from politics, and at the same time stating that by giving his entire time and energies to the development of the great natural resources of his native State, he hoped to be able to prove himself, to some extent, a benefactor of his fellow-citizens. This was a wise determination, for with his vast means and wide acquaintance with wealthy and influential men in other States, by the carrying out of the vast public enterprises in which he is now engaged, he will rear for himself a monument that party dissenters cannot tear down, and which will cause his name to be remembered for generations to come.

Mr. Camden's personal appearance is a very fair index of his mental characteristics. Heavily framed, his tall stout figure still suggests the military training of his early days, although time has rounded out its ample outlines. A good gray head and beard likewise whitened with the "snow that never melts," show the advance of age, but there is no suggestion of

antiquity in his firm movement, and his whole appearance indicates a vigorous and well-sustained physical organization. Keen gray eyes, a prominent nose, and lips that close firmly under a clipped mustache give his countenance a firm look in repose, but the features lighten up with animation in conversation, and the general expression is pleasant and kindly. Ordinarily slow of speech and guarded in his statements, choosing his words with deliberation and evidently weighing his remarks well before giving them utterance, his manner as well as his matter inspires confidence in business conversation and conveys the impression of a modest and careful, but self-contained and resolute character, cautious in forming conclusions but ready to act upon them when formed. In social intercourse there are few men more entertaining and attractive. A good liver, hospitable and generous, true to his friends and singularly free from continued resentments, with the ability to separate himself entirely from business cares in social circles, and a mind cultivated by reading, travel and observation, he can adapt himself readily to any surroundings and there are few people thrown into social communication with him who do not become his admiring friends.

In his domestic life he has been as fortunate as in his business and political career. In 1858 he was married to Miss Anna Thompson, daughter of the late George W. Thompson, of Wheeling. They have a son and daughter who, with the mother, make up a home circle of marked cultivation and refinement.

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## NEIL JUDSON FORTNEY.

Daniel Fortney, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch was a native of France, and was born February 6, 1781, and when a young man came to the United States, and settled in Frederick County, Maryland, where he married Leah Menear, October 8, 1801. His wife was of German extraction, but whether she was born in the mother country is not now known. The family record shows her birth to have been November 10, 1785. Shortly after their marriage they moved to Monongalia (now Preston) County, Virginia (now West Virginia), and settled near the site of what is now the Village of Reedsville.

Their children were: Mary, who married Samuel Fields, born July 30, 1802; David H., who married Angelina S. Zinn, born September 17, 1804; John, who married Elizabeth Shinn, born February 6, 1807; Sarah, who

married George Orr, born April 23, 1809; Barbara, who married Hunter Piles, born July 6, 1811; Barton, who married Emily Squires, born November 13, 1813; Daniel R., who married Mahala Pell, born March 18, 1816; William P., who married Martha Kirk, born May 23, 1818; Naomi, who married William Fawcett, born March 16, 1821; Edith, who married Isaiah Kirk, born August 6, 1823, and Clarissa B., who married Elias Conley, born April 22, 1826. David Harrison Fortney, the father of Neil Judson, was married to Angelina S. Zinn, March 19, 1829. His wife was born November 3, 1808, and was the daughter of John Zinn, who also lived in Preston County. Their children were: Eugenius W., who married Ruth Powell, and now resides in Indianola, Iowa, was born July 22, 1830; Fernandez E., who married John W. Howard, and who died in Indianola, Iowa, October 16, 1868, was born October 9, 1832; Lycurgus H., who died at Pella, Iowa, November 10, 1858, was born December 10, 1834; Charlotte A., who married John Vantassel, and now resides in Glendora, San Diego County, California, was born October 5, 1836; Carolina N., who married R. W. Monroe, and now resides in Kingwood, West Virginia, was born October 31, 1838; Silas M., who married Elizabeth Miller, and now resides at Indianola, Iowa, was born October 21, 1840; Ashford E., who married Mellie E. Tuttle, and now resides in West Wheeling, Ohio, was born February 2, 1843; Loretta R., who died June 8, 1846, was born April 8, 1845; Orpah S., who married a Mr. Brunk, and who died in Nebraska, was born July 17, 1847, and Neil J., who now resides in Kingwood, West Virginia, and is the subject of this article, was born near the Town of Independence, Preston County, West Virginia, November 22, 1849. He received his primary education at the private schools in the town of Independence, and removed with his parents in 1865 to Indianola, Iowa, where he attended the public schools of that place for two years, and then took a three-years' course of study at Simpson Centenary College at the same place.

In 1870, he left his home in Iowa and traveled for four years over a considerable portion of the West, including a trip the length of the Missouri River so far as navigable. For a livelihood he followed ornamental painting, sign-writing, and school teaching, and was an occasional correspondent for home and other newspapers.

He returned to Preston County, West Virginia, in 1874, and the next year began the study of law with Colonel R. W. Monroe, of the Kingwood bar. He was appointed Deputy Clerk of the County Court of Preston County, in 1877, in consequence of which appointment he suspended the study of law for some time.

In April, 1879, he passed examination at Wheeling before the Supreme Court of Appeals of the State, and was licensed to practice law. Mr. Fortney was married on the 3d of June, 1879, to Miss Alice Edna, eldest daughter of Captain Joseph M. Godwin, of Kingwood.

In 1880, he was the Republican candidate for Prosecuting Attorney of the county, and was elected by a handsome majority. After serving his term of four years he was renominated and re-elected to the same office for a second term by an increased majority, and then again at its expiration, was elected for a third (successive) term, by a still greater majority. In 1892, at the end of his official term he was made chairman of the Republican County Committee of his county, and under his management of the affairs of his party it was very successful. In 1894 he was a prominent candidate of his party for the nomination for Congress for the Second Congressional District of West Virginia, and was supported in the convention by the solid delegation from his own county, as well as by a number of delegates from the other counties in the district. Mr. Fortney is now in the active practice of his profession, at the Kingwood bar, as well as in the other counties of the State, and is ranked among the able and successful members of the West Virginia bar, and has a wide influence in his party in his section of the State.

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## HON. JAMES DUNKIN.

In Harrison County, West Virginia, October 20, 1848, was born the subject of this sketch, the son of Dr. William Dunkin (see sketch). His early life was passed on the old home farm and he received a good practical education in the common schools. In 1868, he entered the State University at Morgantown and continued in that institution until he had completed his junior year, when he became interested in stock-raising and has been following that occupation since. He has 300 acres of land which he has turned into pasture and has made a success of this industry. Aside from this he has been interested in coal-mining and is part owner of the Inter Ocean Mine on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, near Bridgeport. He has bought and sold a large amount of coal land, owns tracts in this county at the present time, and in this, as in stock-raising, has been successful. He is one of the wide-

awake, progressive men of his section, is interested in all worthy enterprises and is a law-abiding, much-esteemed member of society. He is a stockholder in the Merchants' Bank of Clarksburg. In his wife he selected Miss Margaret Smith, a native of Clarksburg, and the daughter of C. W. and Deborah A. (Copeland) Smith, both of whom died in Clarksburg, West Virginia. The father was a prominent man in that city and his death occurred there in 1875. His wife had died many years before. Their family consisted of six children: William R., Mary, the wife of Julius Gore, of Clarksburg; Cruger W., who is living in Jefferson County, this State; Mrs. Dunkin, Anna D., who died in 1888, and Flora, by his second marriage to Susan L. Gore. Mrs. Dunkin's grandparents, Isaac and Prudence (Davisson) Copeland, were natives of Harrison County, and Isaac Copeland was the son of Benjamin Copeland, who came to this country at an early day. Mrs. Dunkin's father, Cruger W. Smith, was born in 1812, and he was a son of William and Margaret (Knight) Smith. William was the son of James Smith, who came originally from Ireland to Virginia, where he passed the remainder of his days. William Smith was born in the latter State. Cruger W. Smith was a prominent man in Harrison County and was Clerk of the County Court up to the breaking out of the Civil War. He was engaged in the coal business and was interested in other occupations. Our subject is a strong advocate of Democratic principles and was elected to the Legislature from Harrison County, in 1876. In 1878 he refused the nomination.

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## GEORGE ADAMS.

George Adams was born at Baltimore, Maryland, September 13, 1834. He came from a family line prominent in Maryland history since the settlement of that State, and early evinced the same qualities which made his ancestors influential and respected. He received his early education in the Baltimore city schools, and began mercantile life in the same city. In 1852 he moved to Wheeling, Virginia, to take charge of an extensive packing establishment operated by his Baltimore employers, and continued in that employment until 1857, when he engaged in the grocery and commission business in Wheeling on his own account. In 1864, Mr. Adams organized the

First National Bank and became its cashier and principal manager. Under his direction it became the leading financial institution of the State, and no small share of its success was due to the vigilance and correct business methods of its managing officer.

While actively engaged in business Mr. Adams at all times took a keen interest in the public and social affairs of his State and neighborhood. An uncompromising Union man, he advocated the resolution adopted by the first Union meeting held at Wheeling, after the passage of the ordinance of secession at Richmond, to pay no taxes to the Letcher Government after it assumed a position of hostility to the United States; and during the war served as Captain and subsequently as Colonel of the Fifth Regiment of West Virginia Militia, an organization that did good service in defense of the Union. He never sought political office, but in many other positions of trust and honor which he has been called upon to fill his record has been an exceedingly creditable one. Among the positions so held, may be mentioned the presidency of the Wheeling Library Association; the treasurership of the Soldiers' Aid Society; the presidency of the Buckeye Glass Company; director of the Franklin Insurance Company, etc., etc.

Mr. Adams was married in 1857 to Mary, daughter of the late Samuel McClellan, one of Wheeling's former prominent business men. The issue of this marriage was a son and two daughters. One of the latter died in infancy in 1866; its mother died in 1870, and in 1874, Mr. Adams was married to his wife's sister, Miss Jane McClellan, a lady similarly gifted with good qualities of head and heart. In 1882, Samuel P. Adams, the son by the first marriage, and a young man of much promise, died and his father, who with his wife and daughter had spent several years in travel in the hope of recovering his son's health, has since lived in retirement.

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## JAMES MADISON MINES.

The creditable condition of agricultural life in Harrison County, West Virginia, is due to a great extent to the enterprise, energy and intelligence of her worthy tillers of the soil, prominent among whom may be mentioned James Madison Mines, of Coal District. He is a product of that grand old



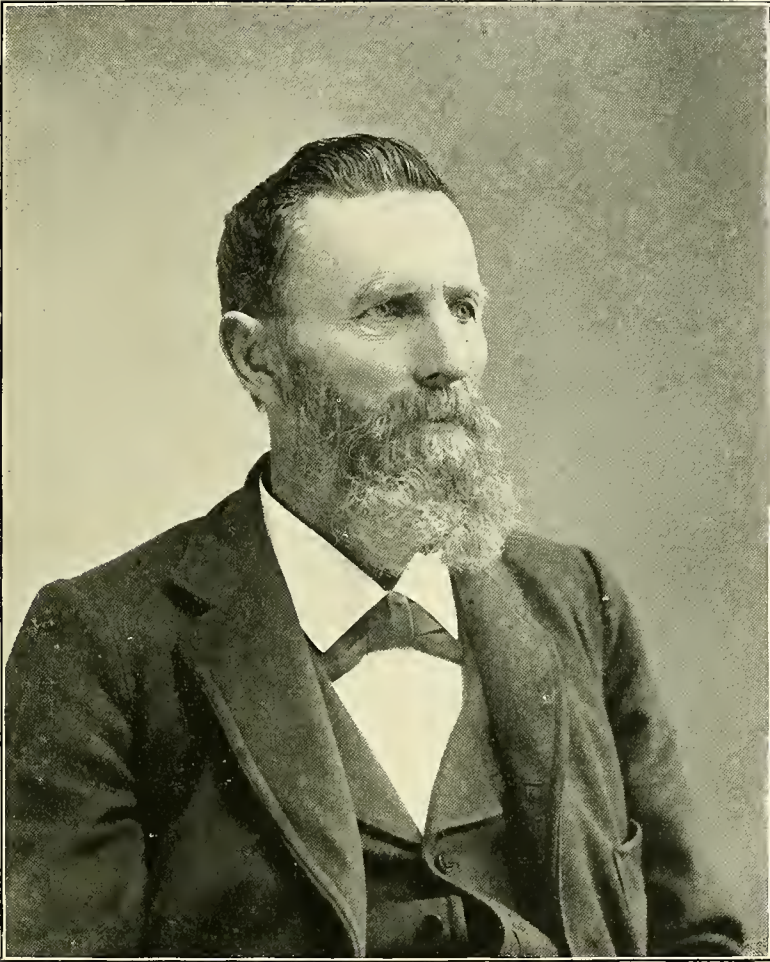
mother of States, Virginia, born in Augusta County, in 1812, and his parents, Lewis and Hannah (Galbart) Mines, were also natives of that State. About the year 1837, the parents came to what is now Taylor County, West Virginia, and four years later to Harrison County, where both passed away a number of years later. Mr. Mines was a carpenter, but gave his attention to other enterprises as well, and was fairly successful. In politics he was a Whig, and he was a soldier in the War of 1812. His father, Peter Mines, came to this country from England prior to the Revolution and probably fought with the colonists. He married a Scotch lady. James Madison Hines, the only child born to his parents, received meager educational advantages in his youth, and in the year 1832 was married to Miss Ellen King, who was born December 31, 1810, and who was the daughter of Richard and Mary King. Mr. King was born in England, but after growing up came to America and was married in Virginia, in which State the remainder of his days were passed. Mr. King was a stone mason by trade and followed that until his death about 1818. He was a Revolutionary soldier. Mrs. King died about 1830. She had been married three times. Mr. and Mrs. Mines have spent nearly two-thirds of a century together and are the parents of nine children, as follows: Mary Margaret, deceased, was the wife of Jacob J. Lowe; Hannah J., deceased, was the wife of Jasper Pew; Sarah Ann, deceased, was the wife of James P. Carr; Elizabeth Ellen, deceased, who married Isham Morrison; Louisa, deceased, married Amos Payne; Minerva became the wife of Edward Fittro; Susan, wife of Chas. T. Reed; Lewis Henry, a prominent farmer of Coal District, and James H., also a successful farmer. Mr. Mines settled in Taylor County in 1837, but four years later moved to Harrison County, where for four years he resided at what is known as the "Stone House," now the Gore farm. After that he settled in the woods, on his present farm two miles northwest of Clarksburg, and there he has about 550 acres of excellent land. He first purchased eighty acres, paying \$8 per acre, and added to it as he was able. Aside from tilling the soil he was engaged in other enterprises, teaming, etc., and for many years burned all the lime that Clarksburg used, and 2,000 bushels, all that was used in the building of the asylum at Weston. His life has been a very busy one, for he started with no capital, and all that he has accumulated is the fruits of his own industry. He paid a man \$50 to bring him to Harrison County from Virginia, and very soon afterward he would have given that much more to have gone back, not being used to pioneer life. Although over eighty years of age Mr. Mines is a well-preserved man in spite of the years spent in hard work. He took no part in the Civil War. After that eventful period he

held the office of County Supervisor for some time and discharged the duties of the same with much efficiency. For over fifty years he and his earnest help-mate have been members and conscientious workers in the Baptist Church, and are well respected in the community in which the most of their lives have been passed. Politically, Mr. Mines is a Republican.

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## A. H. OSBURN.

An active and progressive system or line of business, when based upon principles of honor, is sure to bring success, and an illustration of prominence gained through these means is seen in the record of A. H. Osburn. To attain success in any calling, it is necessary that a man should be possessed of a keen and discerning mind, with the energy and determination to push his business instead of allowing it to push him. These qualities are possessed in an eminent degree by our subject, who is a prominent machinist at Clarksburg, West Virginia. He came originally from the Keystone State, born in Fayette County, February 8, 1828, and the son of A. G. and Jane (Linn) Osburn. A. G. Osburn first saw the light of day in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, in 1807, and he was the son of Joseph and Jane (Lucky) Osburn. Joseph Osburn was a native of New Jersey, and was a son of one of three brothers who came to this country from England at an early date, and who were descendants from the Osburn house of England of the Isle of ————. The great-grandfather of our subject was a soldier in the Revolution and the latter's grandfather was a prominent soldier in the War of 1812. On the maternal side his grandfather, Alexander Linn, fought in the War of 1812, and thus it may be seen that he comes of good old fighting stock on both sides of the house. The father of our subject remained in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, until grown, attending the pioneer schools of those days, and then took a college course at Madison College, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. He subsequently became a minister in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, preaching in different sections, and was then a missionary among the corn-planting Indians in the northern part of the State. During the Civil War he enlisted as Chaplain of the Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry. He served through the war, and was in the campaign of the Valley of Virginia, and participated in Hunter's raid. He suffered much from exposure and his



*A. H. Osborn*



death occurred in 1868. Politically, he was a strong Republican. Mr. Osburn was married in Pennsylvania to Miss Jane Linn, a daughter of Alexander and Margaret (Victor) Linn, who were early pioneers in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Osburn was born in Somerset, Pennsylvania, in 1806, and died in 1877. She was the mother of twelve children: Joseph, who died in 1885, was born in May, 1830, and came to Clarksburg in 1863. He was a married man and left a family of ten children. Like his father he was a supporter of Republican principles, and a prominent man in this city; William, a physician of Kansas, was a soldier in the Civil War; Sarah A., is the wife of Samuel Robinson, of Fayette County; Linn, a farmer of Fayette County, also served in the Civil War; Wilkins, a physician, and a soldier of the Civil War, resides in Uniontown, Pennsylvania; Margaret, married, resides in Uniontown, Pennsylvania; Beeson, deceased, was a soldier, too; Mathiet, another soldier, resides in Uniontown, and Mary, who died many years ago. The children now living are much respected and esteemed members of society. Until twenty-eight years of age our subject remained in his native county, where he received a limited education in the common schools. Later, by his own exertions, he secured a better education and as he had become familiar with the iron business when a lad of fourteen, he selected that as his occupation in life when starting out for himself. When the tocsin of war sounded he enlisted in the Seventeenth West Virginia, and was in the quartermaster's department. He experienced many hardships during this trying period, but fought bravely for the old flag. At one time a Whig in politics he remained with that party until the formation of the Republican party, when he joined its ranks, and has ever given it his hearty support. He is a man well-liked by all, and has held a number of prominent positions in the county. Mr. Osborn is a member of the Adelpi Lodge No. 8, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Clarksburg, and has filled most of the chairs. In his religious views he is a Presbyterian. Soon after coming to Clarksburg he engaged as a machinist with his brother, J. F., and continued that business in partnership with his brother until the latter's death in 1883. He is the owner of a foundry and machine shop and manufactures saw mill boilers, engines, and all work of that kind. He has made a success of this and still continues the business. Mr. Osburn selected his wife in the person of Miss Alsinda Richardson, daughter of William Richardson, and two children were the fruits of this union, one of whom died young. The other, William, is foreman of the shops. Mrs. Osburn died in 1863 and in 1875 Mr. Osburn married Miss Susan E. Harrison, daughter of Judge W. A. Harrison. One child was given them, Cuthbert, who is at school. Mrs. Osburn died in

1887 and his third marriage was with Miss Mary Rhoda, daughter of Henry and Mary Rhoda, of Missouri. One child, Beatrice W., has been born to this union. Mr. Osburn has a pleasant home on Main Street, Clarksburg, and is one of that city's most influential citizens.

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### S. M. SCOTT, M. D.

There is perhaps no better known or more successful physician in Preston County than Dr. S. M. Scott, who has been actively engaged in his profession for the past twenty years, and who has won the confidence and good opinion of all. He first saw the light in Halifax County, Virginia, July 20, 1850, and his father, Rev. John A. Scott, D. D., was also a native of that State. The latter was a minister of the Presbyterian Church, and spent the best years of his life in looking after the spiritual welfare of his charges. He was moderator of the synod of 1883, held in Rockbridge County, Virginia, and was active in all church work as were other members of this family for several generations back. Some of them were in the synod of Virginia, and classed among the noted divines of the State. Rev. Archibald Scott, the great-grandfather of Dr. Scott, was born in Scotland and came to the New World when a young man, first locating in Pennsylvania. He subsequently took a collegiate course, studied theology and afterward gave his entire attention to the ministry. His son, Rev. William N. Scott, grandfather of our subject, was also a minister in the Presbyterian Church, and our subject has three brothers, ministers in that church. Another brother, Professor Charles C. Scott, is professor of chemistry in Austin College, Sherman, Texas. The father of our sketch is now retired from active ministerial duties and resides in Florida. During his youth our subject received a liberal education in the Washington and Lee University, and there completed his course in Latin and mathematics. Following this he began teaching school in Hardy County and also commenced the study of medicine, which he carried on at his leisure hours. Later he attended lectures at the University of Virginia, graduating in medicine in the class of 1871, at the University of Virginia, and completed the clinical course at the Maryland hospital in Baltimore. After completing his studies at college the doctor located at Cumberland, Maryland, where he commenced practicing in 1871. In the Summer

of 1874 he moved to Terra Alta and has now been in active practice at that place for twenty years and has been reasonably successful. The doctor is a member of the National Association of Railroad Surgeons, and with all pertaining to his profession he is prominently identified. In politics he is a staunch advocate of Democratic principles, but has never cared for political preferment, preferring to give his undivided attention to his profession. Dr. Scott was married in Terra Alta, West Virginia, in 1875, to Miss Anna E. Fairfax, a daughter of General B. Fairfax, of Terra Alta, and a native of Virginia. Their two children are, Buckner Fairfax Scott and Stanhope M. Scott, Jr. The former is now taking a course of lectures in the University of West Virginia, and the latter is attending the Terra Alta school. The doctor is a prominent member of the Masonic Lodge in Terra Alta, being Master of the same, and he is also a member of the Knights of Pythias, of which he is Past Chancellor. He is also one of the trustees of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia. Both he and wife are active members of the Presbyterian Church and are among the most popular people in the section.

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## JOHN T. GRIFFIN.

The business sagacity displayed by John T. Griffin, merchant, of Clarksburg, West Virginia, is manifested by the fact that his trade has grown to large proportions. To be successful as merchant, natural aptitude for business is essential, and this is a quality which Mr. Griffin possesses, as is proven by the fact that since his establishment of himself in business, twenty-six years ago, his trade has been constantly growing. He is a man whose personnel is pleasing and one of those who creates friends wherever he goes. In a word, a man whose character reflects the proverbial whole-heartedness of the true American. He was born in Clarksburg, August 25, 1843, to Benjamin S. and Eliza (Cather) Griffin, the former of whom was born near Winchester, Virginia, September 10, 1801, and was brought to Harrison County by his parents, Samuel and Sarah Griffin, when four years old. The home of the grandparents was originally in Calvert County, Maryland, from which they removed to Virginia, at an early day. In 1805 Samuel Griffin located near Bridgeport on the waters of Brushy Fork Creek, in Harrison County, Virginia, now West Virginia, and lived and died on a farm on which

he reared a large family of ten or twelve children. Three of his sons were soldiers of the War of 1812, their names being William, Edward and Joshua, the two first mentioned dying in the service. Benjamin S. Griffin grew up on the old homestead and received but limited educational advantages. In 1841, he removed to Clarksburg, and during the first few years of his residence in this county he was Deputy Sheriff, and was also for some years the county jailor. He was appointed Postmaster under Franklin Pierce, and also served in this capacity under President Buchanan. He lived in Clarksburg until his death in 1884. He was a member of Clarksburg Lodge of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and was a Democrat in his political views before the war, but at the beginning of that struggle took the Union side and afterward became a Republican. To himself and wife a family of twelve children were born, but several died in infancy. Margaret died when about eighteen years old; William, at one time Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Masons of New Mexico, became president of the First National Bank of Santa Fe, New Mexico, and at the time of his death in 1889 left a wife and six children; Sarah became the wife of F. M. Lowry, who died from the effects of a wound received while Lieutenant of an artillery company in the Union army during the war, and is herself also deceased; Benjamin F. is a groceryman of Clarksburg; Emily became the wife of Henry Mines and died in 1878; John T.; Rebecca died young; David S. died in Clarksburg in 1893. These, with the infants that died, constituted the family. Their mother was born in Harrison County in 1806, and is still living at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. Up to the time he was fourteen years old the subject of this sketch passed his school days in Clarksburg, after which he was employed in the printing office of the Clarksburg Register, and was thus connected with the paper for about eighteen months, but was for eleven years in the newspaper business, five years of which time he was associated with General Northcott on the National Telegraph, the outgrowth of which is the present paper known as the Telegram. After giving up newspaper work he engaged in the mercantile business and has since followed this occupation. At first he simply carried a line of groceries, but since 1882 he has carried a general line of goods. He was a member of the City Council for two years and was nominated once for the position of County Superintendent of Schools, but declined the office. He is a member of Adelphi Lodge No. 8, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Clarksburg, has held various offices in this lodge, and in its workings and prosperity has always been deeply interested. He is public-spirited, and in a business way has been very successful. In 1869, he was appointed Aide-de-Camp with



rank of Colonel on the staff of Governor W. E. Stevenson, of West Virginia. His wife was formerly Miss Rose Rector, a daughter of D. W. and Sarah (Kean) Rector, the former of whom is living in Clarksburg. To Mr. and Mrs. Griffin two children have been given: Charles H. and Alice. Mr. Griffin has a handsome residence on Pike Street, and he and his family are in the enjoyment of a competency which has been obtained through his own industry.

Mr. Griffin is a man of strong convictions—voting for men and measures and not for party, and when he was conscientiously convinced that the Prohibition party was right, he unhesitatingly waived all questions of political popularity, and became a Prohibitionist.

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## WILLIAM A. WATSON.

This successful and wide-awake business man has been in business at Fellowsville since 1886, and is a native of the county, having been born in Valley District, February 4, 1856. His father, William S. Watson, was also born in Preston County, but his father, David Watson came thither at an early day from elsewhere, opened up a farm and reared a family in Valley District, Preston County. William S. Watson arrived at man's estate in that section and was there united in marriage with Elizabeth Huggins, also a native of the county, and they at once began farming as a means of livelihood. The mother died in March, 1891, and the father at the home of his daughter in this county in June, 1894. Mr. Watson fought under the Stars and Stripes during the Civil War, and was in the service for about one and one-half years. William A. Watson was the eldest son and second in order of birth in a family of four sons and four daughters that grew to mature years. Up to the age of sixteen years William A. Watson resided in Valley District, during which period he received fair common school advantages. When a mere lad of seventeen years he commenced teaching school and for seven terms successfully followed this occupation in Preston County. At the end of that time he engaged in merchandising in Sinclair, but commenced operations in quite a modest way, under the firm name of Watson & Co., and as his patronage increased and his means permitted he increased his stock of goods. In 1886 he bought out an established business

at Fellowsville. They carry a stock of general merchandise and have built up a good trade and established a reputation for good goods and fair dealing that is justly merited. In connection with this establishment, Mr. Watson is also engaged in the undertaking business. He has long supported the men and measures of the Republican party, and has very acceptably filled several local official positions. The public-school system has ever found a warm friend in him and for twelve years he served as a member of the Board of Education of his district, during which time he made every endeavor to secure the best teachers. For a number of years he was a member of the Republican Central Committee and has been a delegate to numerous county, State and Congressional conventions. On the 26th of December, 1878, in St. Clair, he was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Jane Sinclair, who was born in this county, a daughter of Robert Sinclair, one of the pioneers of this section, from whom she inherited Scotch blood. Mr. and Mrs. Watson have four children: Elmer E., who assists his father in the store; Ernest, Ila Grace and William S., Jr. Another son, Alonzo, died at the age of three years and five months. Mr. Watson is a member of Kingwood Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Watson has always identified himself with the best interests of the county, is a man of excellent business habits and capacity, and the confidence which is universally reposed in him is fully merited.

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## WILSON P. HOLDEN:

Among those whose career in business has been rendered conspicuous by the honorable methods and careful attention shown throughout, is the mercantile firm known as W. P. Holden & Co., of Clarksburg, West Virginia. This enterprise was established in Clarksburg, in 1875, and is doing a good general business of dry goods, groceries, etc. About the year 1877 the store was moved from the East Side of Clarksburg to the center of the city, where they are now doing a business of from twenty to twenty-five thousand dollars per year. Wilson P. Holden was born in Harrison County, West Virginia, on the farm where his father, L. D. Holden, is now living, and which is located about three miles from Clarksburg. The elder Holden

is one of the pioneer farmers of the county and is well-known throughout its length and breadth. Although now about eighty-two years of age he is well preserved for his years and is a man universally respected. Farming has been his principal occupation in life and he has held a number of responsible positions in the county. He was married here to Miss Eliza Haskinson, a native of this county, and the daughter of ————— Haskinson, who was another of the earliest settlers. A large, old-fashioned family of fifteen children were born to them: Lloyd, Wilson P., Hezekiah, Minter, Lee D., John and Alexis are the sons, and Amanda, Mary, Martha, Olive, Sarah, Helen, Nancy and Anna are the daughters. Of these Hezekiah, John, Mary and Amanda are dead. All the rest, with the exception of Martha, are residing in this State. She makes her home in Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Holden are members of the Baptist Church, and he is a deacon in the same. The home place is managed by their son Lee, Mr. Holden having retired from the active duties of life a number of years ago. They have quite a number of grandchildren. Our subject's paternal grandfather, Peter W. Holden, was also born in Harrison County, West Virginia, whither his parents came from New Jersey at an early date. Wilson P. Holden was born March 6, 1840, and when but a boy became familiar with the duties of farm life, all his youthful days being passed in assisting his father on the home place. He received only about three months' schooling and when twenty-one years of age started out to fight life's battles for himself. Although his educational advantages during youth had been limited, he was possessed of a naturally quick, active mind and unlimited amount of energy and determination. He was first appointed Deputy Sheriff under Charles Holden and assisted in discharging the duties of Sheriff for four years. Later he became a clerk in the store of George Bastable, in Clarksburg, and was with him four years, gaining much valuable experience during that time. For two months after this he was with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company and later he embarked in mercantile pursuits with Mr. W. H. Freeman, with whom he has since remained. The business was started in a small way, but has increased until it is one of the largest enterprises in the City of Clarksburg, and a stock of goods valued at \$10,000 is carried. Mr. Holden has been the carver of his own destiny and has made it an honorable one. In politics he is a Democrat, but is rather conservative, and in religion he is a Presbyterian, being an elder in the church. Mr. Holden married Miss Myrtle Ferguson, daughter of Lemuel D. and Catherine (Steel) Ferguson, and a sister of Mrs. D. W. Boughner, and Miss Clara Ferguson, of Clarksburg. Mrs. Holden died April 8, 1880, leaving one child, Ralph, who is now attending school

at Waynesboro, Virginia. Mr. Holden's second marriage occurred in 1885, Miss Sarah Boring, a daughter of Samuel I. and Elizabeth Boring, of West Milford, this county, becoming his wife. They have two children, Freda and Fleming.

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## THE DESPARD FAMILY--B. M. DESPARD.

According to the family archives of the Despard family the name was spelled D'Espard up to 1715, when it was changed to Despard, and has so remained up to the present time. Philip D'Espard was a Huguenot refugee from France to England in 1572, and was sent by Queen Elizabeth to Ireland as a Royal Commissioner. His son, William D'Espard, was married to Frances Green, and their son Richard became an Episcopal minister. He was married to Miss Frances Burton, of Dublin, and Richard D'Espard, of Virginia, was their fifth child. The latter was married to a Miss Diana McMahon, of Dublin, and a family of six children was born to them: Jane, Frances Diana, Richard, Mary, Burton and Charlotte Thomasine. Several of these children were born in Ireland, but the younger members of the family first opened their eyes in America, whither their father, Richard Despard, emigrated. He settled and resided for some years in New York City, but later came to Clarksburg, West Virginia (then Clarksburg, Virginia), and became a merchant. Here he reared his family to honorable manhood and womanhood, but his eldest child died unmarried. Mary became the wife of Josiah D. Wilson, father of Colonel Benjamin Wilson, of Clarksburg; Burton married Emily Smith, daughter of Abraham and Annie (Knotts) Smith, who were early pioneers of Pruntytown, West Virginia (then Virginia); Charlotte T. married Granville Davisson. Some of the land which Richard Despard owned was that on which the Despard Block of Clarksburg now stands. He and his family were of the Episcopal faith and were highly-esteemed citizens of the section in which they resided. Burton Despard, their son, became the father of five children by his wife, Emily Smith: Charles S., Laura E., Wheaton B., Burton M. and Emmett. Charles S., who is in the gas and foundry business at Parkersburg, was married to Miss Ella R. Bean and has four children: Emily, Laura, Estelle and Charles S., Jr.; Laura E. is the wife of Judge N. Goff, of Clarksburg, and Wheaton B. and Emmett

died when young. The mother of these children, who was an earnest member of the Episcopalian Church, died about 1857. She was born in Pruntytown, and there the father died in 1874. After the death of his first wife Burton Despard wedded Miss Gertrude Lee, daughter of Judge George H. Lee, of Clarksburg, and three children were the result of this union: Diana M., Flora H., who died in 1882, and Duncan Lee, who is residing in Frostburg, Maryland, and is connected with the Consolidation Coal Company of that place. Their mother lives in Baltimore, Maryland; Diana M. lives with her mother in Baltimore. Burton Despard was an attorney-at-law and for many years followed that calling in Clarksburg. He was the counsel for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad in West Virginia for some years, opened up the Despard Coal Mines near Clarksburg, also carried on farming, was one of the organizers of the West Virginia Bank, and in numerous other ways showed that he was a man of enterprise and public spirit. He became widely known and was universally respected. He was a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and politically was an Independent Democrat. Burton McMahon Despard received his education in the schools of Clarksburg and in the Washington and Lee University in Virginia. He was engaged in merchandising for several years, but has since been prospecting for oil in this and other portions of the State. He is connected with some of the oil companies in this county.

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## THOMAS PATTON.

The subject of this sketch is one who has built, by years of industry and good management, a business that is recognized as being one of the best of its kind in Clarksburg, a credit to Harrison County. Mr. Thomas Patton is a man who possesses the inherent qualities requisite to commercial success, in a very high degree, and in his chosen calling has attained an enviable position among his compeers. He is a prominent merchant of Clarksburg and for many years has been a resident of that city. He came originally from Scotland, his birth occurring in Lanarkshire, January 22, 1847; son of James and Jane (Rankin) Patton, also native of that country. About the year 1855 the parents came to the United States and made their home in Maryland for a few years. From that State they moved to Clarksburg, West

Virginia, in 1868, and there the father died in 1890. The mother is still living and makes her home in Clarksburg. During his youth our subject was given good educational advantages and kept in school, where he made rapid strides. He finished at St. John's College, Maryland, which institution he attended for three years, and then branched out for himself as an educator in the schools of West Virginia, teaching in Harrison and other counties. In 1879, he embarked in merchandising in company with J. W. K. Hayes and up to 1886 the company was known as Hayes & Patton, and carried on a general business in merchandise. In 1886, Mr. Hayes withdrew, but Mr. Patton still continued to carry on the business and to the enviable reputation he bears in those circles, are added those characteristics of probity and fair-dealing innate in the upright and honorable man. He is possessed of unusual business acumen and for many years now he has been identified with the growth and upbuilding of the city. For some time he was City Recorder and he has held other positions of trust and responsibility in Clarksburg. He married Miss Anna R. Harrison, a native of Clarksburg, and the daughter of Judge William A. Harrison. To Mr. and Mrs. Patton have been born three children, Therese, Brooks and Florence, all of whom are attending the schools of Clarksburg. This is one of the leading families of the county.

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## BERNARD LEE BUTCHER.

Three generations of the ancestors of this prominent educator lie buried within this State. The subject of this sketch was born near Huttonsville, Randolph County, Virginia, September 12, 1853. He was educated in the common schools till about the age of seventeen, when he began to teach others. He then attended the State Normal at Fairmont, under the principalship of the late Dr. James G. Blair, and after three years' study graduated. He studied law in the office of Judge Alpheus F. Haymond, of Fairmont; was admitted to the bar of his native county in 1875; and in 1876 was elected Prosecuting Attorney thereof, in which office he served for four years with acceptability to Court, bar and the people. In the Centennial year he was a member of the Board of Regents of the State Normal Schools. In 1880 he was nominated by the Democratic party and elected to the position of State Superintendent of Public Schools. During his four years administration

he was efficient, popular, and energetic in elevating the standard of education throughout every county. He founded and published *The School Journal*, which aided in closer sympathy between teacher and scholar, between Normal and University work. Since the expiration of his official term he has resumed law-practice, and is extensively interested in buying and selling real estate. In 1888 he was appointed Secretary of the State Board of Immigration and Development.

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### A. A. FRANZHEIM.

The office of Sheriff is one that has been filled by the illustrious head of this Government, and is a position that demands the greatest circumspection, more than ordinary personal courage and a general and apt intelligence. The County of Ohio is fortunate in its choice of its present incumbent, A. A. Franzheim, who adds to strict intelligence the other qualities essential to thorough discharge of the responsibilities connected with the station. He was born in Wheeling, West Virginia, December 13, 1861, a son of the well-known citizen, George W. Franzheim, who came to this country from Germany early in life and engaged in the wholesale wine and liquor business. The early education of the subject of this sketch was gained in the public schools of Wheeling and in a German school there, and his knowledge of the "world of books" was completed in the Lindsley Institute of that city. He engaged in the battle of life for himself in 1881, as a jeweler, in partnership with a Mr. Miller, the name of the firm being Miller & Franzheim, of Wheeling, but two years later he purchased Mr. Miller's interest and continued the business alone up to 1886. He then went to New Mexico, where he became a mine prospector, and was also engaged in building and in irrigating ditching from Albuquerque to Socorro, a distance of one hundred miles. He remained there two years and in 1888 returned to his native city, where he became the Democratic nominee for County Sheriff. In 1889 and 1890 he was Secretary of the City Gas Company, and in 1892 was elected County Sheriff, which term of office will expire on the 1st of January, 1897. He held the rank of Brigadier-General on the staff of Governor Fleming and also on the staff of Governor Wilson, by whom he was appointed as one of a committee to locate the State Reform School, in 1889. He has been deeply and prominently interested in public affairs and is well known in the State

of West Virginia. There is not a more prominent young man in the City of Wheeling and no movement of any importance is carried out without his aid and co-operation. He is one of the directors of the State Fair Association, of Wheeling, and socially is a member of the Tariff Students' Club, the Fort Henry Club and such secret orders as the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in which he is a Knight Templar; the Knights of Pythias, and Wheeling Lodge No. 28, of the Elks. He has had several severe strikes to contend with since he has been Sheriff; he has been equal to the emergency, and notwithstanding the fact that the Sheriffs of other counties ordered out State troops to aid them in 1894, he managed the strikers successfully in his own way. He has been an active Democrat all his life. He was married to Miss Kate D. Hardin, daughter of W. H. Hardin, of Ohio, and has one daughter—Helen D. He has a comfortable and pleasant home at 100 Virginia Street and he and his estimable wife are well-known for their hospitality, generosity and kind-heartedness. He is a model American citizen and inherits many of the most worthy traits of his German ancestors.

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## JOHN SINSELL BURDETT.

John Sinsell Burdett was born in Harrison County, Virginia, December 20, 1818. His boyhood was spent in attending the Winter sessions of the pioneer school and clerking in his father's store at Pruntytown—the father having come to the county barefoot, but by industry and integrity amassed a handsome competence. By close observation and night study John fitted himself for the active life of usefulness he has lived. Deeming his section of Harrison entitled to form a county, he surveyed the lines and formulated the petition which resulted in the organization of Taylor County out of a part of Harrison. In 1844, at the age of twenty-six, his fellow-countrymen sent him to represent them in the State Legislature, and his first term was so satisfactory that they returned him to the same duty for six consequent sessions. By appointment he was census-taker of Taylor County in 1850, and was Public Administrator and Special Commissioner. He succeeded his father and continued a merchant, in connection with other business, for several years.



When the dark days of the Republic approached, he foresaw the inevitable—war, bloody war, or a dismemberment of the States of the Union. While so-called statesmen were shading their eyes to the issue, Captain Burdett leaped at once to the conclusion and took a stand in grim determination to hold to the Union or die with it. The old Commonwealth was in painful labor, and he strove manfully that she should not bring forth dishonor. Elected a member of the Constitutional Convention at Richmond, in 1860-'61—the same body that passed the ordinance separating the State from the Union—he was one of the fifty-six members who voted steadily against every phase of secession offered. Hisses, hootings, the rabble yell and the mob's threats were alike unheeded, as he stood unflinchingly by what he considered a patriotic duty to the whole Government.

Returning to his home, he made unceasing and successful resistance to the secession ordinance. He took an active part in restoring the Government of Virginia under the Federal Union; also in the formation of the new State of West Virginia. He proved his patriotism by four years' service in the Union Army of the Potomac, ending with Lee's surrender, having been commissioned by President Lincoln, and unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate, a Captain and Commissary of Subsistence.

After victorious peace had consummated his fondest hopes he returned to his native hills, and his people continued his public service by electing him to the Senate of West Virginia from the district composed of the counties of Monongalia, Preston and Taylor, he receiving the unprecedented majority of 1,200 votes. He was in the National Republican Convention at Philadelphia in 1868 that nominated General Grant.

Captain Burdett moved to Charleston, Kanawha County, in 1868, and was elected by nearly 20,000 majority State Treasurer of West Virginia, serving from March 4, 1871, to 1875, and re-elected for a second term. In 1888, at the age of seventy, he was made president of the Harrison and Morton Club of Charleston, and at the meeting of the Republican National League, in Baltimore, was appointed the member of its National Executive Committee from West Virginia.

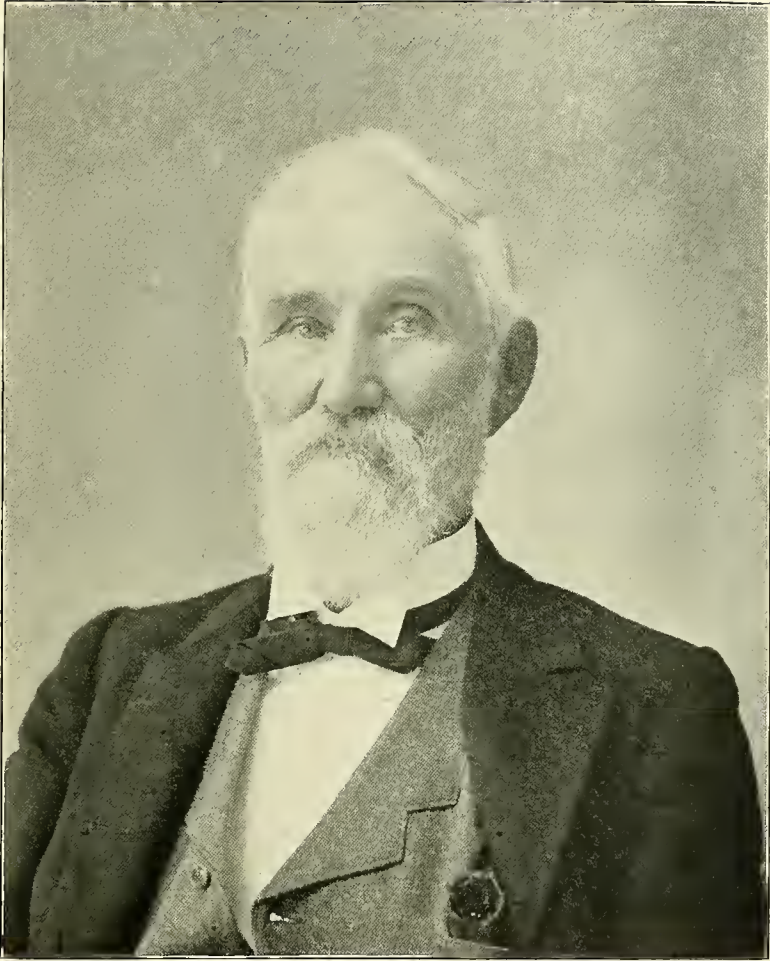
The Captain has ever been active and influential in the affairs of his party. He says he "expects to die in the harness of 'protection to American industries' and the promotion of the best interests of the grandest country and government ever vouchsafed to man." Captain Burdett married, in July, 1845, Abby Ann Johnson, daughter of Colonel William Johnson, of Bridgeport, Harrison County, West Virginia, and sister of ex-United States Senator Waldo P. Johnson, of Missouri.

The father of the subject of this sketch was Frederick Burdett, a native of Fauquier County, Virginia. His mother, whose maiden name was Susan Sinsell, was a native of the same county. The grandfather was from England and the grandmother from Germany, both of whom emigrated to the American colonies at an early day, before the Revolutionary war.

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## MATTHEW WAITE HARRISON.

This gentleman is the secretary and treasurer of the West Virginia & Pennsylvania Railroad Company's office at Weston, an office he has filled with marked ability since the organization of the road. He was born at Clarksburg, West Virginia, June 27, 1826, the second of ten children born to William A. and Anna (Maybury) Harrison, the former of whom was born in Virginia, and the latter in Norristown, Pennsylvania. William A. Harrison was born in Prince William County, and being left fatherless in his youth, went to Winchester, Virginia, to make his home with a half-sister, who married Obed Waite of that town. He read law with Mr. Waite, and afterward practiced his profession successively in Leesburg, Loudoun County, Virginia; Parkersburg, Virginia, and Clarksburg, Virginia, residing in the latter place from 1821 until his death, December 31, 1870. He was a very successful legal practitioner and became Judge of the Circuit and also of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia, having resigned from the latter position but a short time before his death. He was a member of the Virginia Legislature in 1836-7, was United States District Attorney for the Western District of Virginia for some time, and for a considerable period was Prosecuting Attorney of Harrison County. He and his wife, who died in 1885, were members of the Presbyterian Church. The paternal grandfather, Matthew Harrison, was of English descent and a native of Prince William County, Virginia. He was a merchant and miller at Dumfries. The maternal grandfather, Willoughby Maybury, was an ironmaster of Pottstown, Pennsylvania, and was married in that section to Miss Susan Eckert. At an early period he located in Virginia and established iron works in Rockbridge County, known as the Gibraltar Works. Matthew Waite Harrison received his literary and legal education at Clarksburg, and in 1852 was admitted to the bar, soon after which, June 14, 1852, he opened an office in Weston. He at



*J. M. Harrison*



once became a popular practitioner and in the winter of 1868-9 he represented Lewis County in the State Legislature. In 1872 he became treasurer of the West Virginia Hospital for the Insane and has ever since held that office. He was one of the organizers and an original director in the National Exchange Bank of Weston in 1865, and is now a director and vice-president, and has been for years, of this bank. He has retired from the practice of law since his connection with it, and all his attention is devoted to the duties of his several offices. He owns a large farm near town, on which he raises a good grade of cattle and sheep. He was married on the 21st of December, 1853, to Miss Sarah E. Hoffman, a native of Weston, and a daughter of Weadon Hoffman, one of the pioneers of this county, for many years a Justice of the Peace and a successful merchant and land-holder all his life. He was a member of the Virginia State Legislature and was a prominent and law-abiding citizen. He died February 18, 1853. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Harrison resulted in the birth of six children: Thomas W., married, and a farmer by occupation; Mary M., wife of A. A. Warren, a hardware merchant, of Weston; Richard H., the editor of the Weston Democrat (see sketch); Emma H., wife of James Ralston, jeweler and optician, of Weston; Anna M., wife of Edwin G. Davisson, hardware merchant, of Weston, and now cashier of the National Exchange Bank, and Fannie E., who died in 1891 at the age of eighteen years. Mr. Harrison's family are members of the Protestant Episcopal Church and are highly respected throughout the entire county.

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## THOMAS THOMPSON.

To till the soil in a profitable manner and to prosper as a stockman, a man must have a liking for the business and must be possessed of push, energy and ambition. The necessary qualities for success in these kindred branches of human endeavor are possessed by Thomas Thompson, and he is prosperously situated in Clark District, Harrison County, West Virginia. He was born on a farm adjoining that which he now owns in 1827, to Hugh and Mary (Gillis) Thompson, natives of the Isle of Erin and West Virginia, respectively. The father was born about the year 1784 and when a boy was brought by his parents to the New World, and with them settled in West

Virginia, where he grew up and married. Soon after this event he settled on a woodland farm, the birthplace of his son Thomas, and there he spent the rest of his days, dying in 1875 at the advanced age of ninety-one years. His wife died when the subject of this sketch was an infant, and he afterward wedded Rebecca, daughter of Hugh Kelso. Mr. Thompson succeeded as a tiller of the soil and through his own efforts became the owner of a most excellent farm of 700 acres. He became an influential citizen, and in his political views was a staunch Whig. His parents, James and Jane (McCauley) Thompson, were natives of County Down, Ireland, but the "Land of the Free" had sufficient attractions to draw them thither during the latter part of the last century, and after a sixteen weeks' ocean voyage they landed on American shores and eventually settled in West Virginia, where they passed the remainder of their days. They died when their children were small and the latter were left to look after themselves. They were named Hugh, John, Samuel, Margaret, who married Thomas Reynolds; Jane, wife of Peter Lynch, and Sarah, wife of James Plant, all of whom are now dead, but left descendants. During their early residence here the Thompsons spent each winter in the fort at Clarksburg, as a protection against the Indians, and many were the hardships and privations that they suffered while clearing and improving their land. Hugh Thompson became quite a noted Nimrod and killed many deer, bears and other wild game and at the same time made many friends among the Indians. The maternal grandfather, James Gillis, was also one of the pioneers of Harrison County, and was also a native of Ireland. He was the first man to mine and sell coal in Clarksburg. He left several children, who were named James, Mary, Eliza, who became a Mrs. Randolph; Sallie, who married Jacob Thomas, and another daughter, who married a Mr. Woodward. To Hugh Thompson and his wife the following children were born: William, deceased; Samuel, a successful farmer of Harrison County; Elizabeth, wife of Thomas T. Payne, and Thomas. The second marriage of Hugh Thompson resulted in the birth of the following children: Edward, deceased; Hugh K., of Harrison County, and Nancy Jane, wife of James M. Lyon. Thomas Thompson obtained his early education under difficulties, for he was compelled to walk three or four miles through the snow during the winter to a log cabin school house, which was furnished in the primitive style and conducted by the old-time pedagogue, who labored under the delusion that "lickin' and larnin'" went together and were essential to the proper education of the youth of those days. When about twenty-one years old he spent one year in Ohio as a farm laborer, then returned home and purchased some stock and began

farming. In 1855, he married Elizabeth, daughter of James and Jane Floyd, of Marion County, and to them seven children were given: Laura, wife of Charles O. Jackson, of Fairmont; Hugh James, William K., of Clarksburg; John P., a civil engineer with headquarters at Fairmont, graduated from the West Virginia State University, after which he taught school for some time; Lydia Jane, Edward and Arthur. Soon after his marriage, Mr. Thompson located on his present farm seven miles west of Clarksburg, and has one of the finest places in the county, comprising 208 acres. He gives considerable attention to the breeding of fine stock, especially horses and has been more than usually successful. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and politically he has always been a Whig and Republican, and cast his first Presidential vote in 1848.

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## MARCELLUS M. THOMPSON.

Prominent among the attorneys of Clarksburg, West Virginia, who have reached a high place in their calling is the gentleman whose name forms the heading of this sketch. Born in Clarksburg, March 10, 1859, and reared in that city he has ever had its interests at heart and has ever contributed to its growth and progress. He inherited much of his perseverance and energy from his father, Joseph G. Thompson, who was a self-made man in every sense of that much-abused term. The father was a native of the Keystone State, born in Fayette County, October 22, 1832, and of English parentage. He was left an orphan at an early age and thrown on his own resources. His educational advantages were not worth speaking about, and thinking to better his condition in every respect he came to Clarksburg, Virginia, in 1854. About the same year he was married to Miss Catherine Brockmire, a native of Marion County, Virginia, born October 9, 1831, and their union was celebrated in that county. Her father, Samuel Brockmire, was of German origin and lived to be an old man. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson lived happily together in Clarksburg from 1854 up to 1887, when on the 5th of June of that year his cherished companion passed away. Mr. Thompson did not long survive her, his death occurring November 25, 1890. He was a shoemaker by trade, but during the latter part of his life he was engaged in merchandising, which he continued until within a few years of his death, when,

having accumulated a fair share of this world's goods, he retired from active business. Mr. Thompson was a strong Union man, but as his health was by no means good he sent a substitute to the war. In politics he was a Republican up to a short time before his death when he became a firm believer in the tariff of the Democratic party. He never sought office. Although he had limited educational advantages in his youth he became his own teacher and was well read on the current topics of his day. He was a fluent and forcible speaker and displayed strong power in an argument. Aside from his trade and mercantile business he was also engaged in farming, and was a man universally respected. For many years he was a member of some of the literary societies of the city and took a keen delight in debating. His marriage resulted in the birth of five children, two besides our subject now living: Edward L., born February 1, 1867, and William U., born July 15, 1869, both merchants of Clarksburg, and in business together. The children deceased were: Harry J., who died in New York City, October 1st, 1889. He was a merchant and for years associated with the store of R. T. Lowndes, and was later in business for himself. His birth occurred September 15, 1861, and he was twenty-eight years old at the time of his death. Another child, Lillie, died in infancy. The father of these children was a Unitarian in belief, and his wife a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The old home of the Thompson family is on the corner of Pike and Chestnut Streets. Marcellus M. Thompson, who was the eldest of the above-mentioned children, secured a thorough education in the Northwestern Academy, finishing his course in that institution in 1878, and immediately afterward entered the law office of Hon. John J. Davis. In 1881, he was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the State, and at once began his career at Clarksburg. For over fourteen years now he has practiced his profession, has had a large number of criminal cases, and has won an enviable reputation. Although still in the dawn of a successful career, Mr. Thompson is one of the foremost attorneys of Clarksburg, a city well represented by some of the country's most talented legal lights. He has held the office of Recorder and chairman of the Finance Committee of the city for twelve years, and in 1888 he was nominated for the office of State's Attorney of Harrison County by the Democratic party. For six or seven years he was Master Commissioner in Chancery for the Circuit Court, and in 1889 he wrote and codified the ordinances of the City of Clarksburg and the same were printed and bound in book form. Mr. Thompson is also the author of "A Magistrate's Manual," containing forms of civil and criminal proceedings under the code of West Virginia, written in 1887, revised and a second edition



published in 1893. He has contributed to newspapers for a number of years and is an able writer. Socially he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Lodge No. 39, and Uniform Rank, Pinnickinnick Division No. 5. In political matters, Mr. Thompson is a Democrat and an active worker for his party. Aside from his profession he is engaged in other business to some extent, and is a substantial citizen. He is a member of the Central Presbyterian Church. On April 7, 1887, he married Miss Carrie Davis, a native of Clarksburg, and the daughter of James P. Davis, who died March 10, 1883. Mr. Davis was also a native of Clarksburg and a prominent business man, and Odd Fellow. Mrs. Thompson was educated at the Northwestern Academy and is an accomplished and refined woman. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have had three children: James P., born February 2, 1888, died March 28, 1888; Desty, born March 26, 1889, and Lucille, born April 9, 1893, died August 24, 1893. Our subject is secretary of the West Virginia Central Agricultural and Mechanical Society, and he represents the Home Builders' Building and Loan Association, of Clarksburg, and is a member of the United States Law Association. Before entering upon his career as a legal practitioner, Mr. Thompson took a great interest in the positive sciences; was one of the best mathematicians in the United States, and for years contributed to the leading educational and mathematical journals of this country.

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## JOHN DUNKIN.

Although the worthy subject of this sketch has followed various occupations, none the less has he been successful, and his prosperity is in direct refutation of the old proverb that "A rolling stone gathers no moss." He was born in Harrison County, West Virginia, July 20, 1846, to Dr. William Dunkin, and his early days were passed on the homestead owned by his parents. His education was received in the village and country schools, and a short term at the University at Morgantown, but his educational career closed about 1866. While he was growing up he had naturally acquired a knowledge of farming and upon starting out in life for himself it was as an agriculturist, but in 1874 turned his attention to merchandising in Bridgeport and is still successfully following this line of work. In 1886 he purchased the Kemble tannery at that place and under his able management it has grown

to be the largest establishment of its kind in that section of the country, and turns out forty or fifty thousand pounds a year. The establishment gives constant employment to three tanners and all kinds of leather are made, but a specialty is made of harness leather. The bark system is used in this tannery as it has been found to be the most effective and consequently the most profitable in the long run. In his mercantile establishment, Mr. Dunkin does an annual business of about \$15,000 and his farm of 115 acres is one of the finest in the county and is mostly given to the raising of sheep of the Shropshire breed, which are all registered. He also has a large number of fine horses and is quite an extensive breeder of Poland-China hogs. The various occupations to which his attention has been directed have succeeded, as they could hardly help but do, for Mr. Dunkin is a shrewd and far-seeing man of business, practical in his views and of a decidedly progressive turn of mind. He has one of the most beautiful homes in Bridgeport, which was erected in 1883, and is modern in architecture and very conveniently arranged. He has always given his support to the Democratic party, has attended a number of State conventions, but has never sought public office, if for no other reason than that his time is completely occupied by looking after his large business interests. He was married in 1880 to Miss Rachel M. Faris, a daughter of George T. Faris, of this county. She was born on the farm now owned by her father and received her education in Broaddus' Female Seminary, now known as Broaddus' Classical and Scientific Institute, at Clarksburg. Her marriage with Mr. Dunkin has resulted in the birth of three sons: William Faris, Michael L. and James Wallace. Mr. and Mrs. Dunkin are worthy members of the Baptist Church.

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## HON. JAMES P. ROGERS.

This gentleman has become distinguished at the bar and this is due to the fact that he possesses not only capacity, but also sound judgment and persevering industry. A careful and accurate adviser, and an earnest and conscientious advocate, his success at the bar has been achieved by the improvement of opportunities, by untiring diligence, and by close study and a correct judgment of men and motives. He is a native of the City of Wheeling, West Virginia, born April 29, 1839, to Alexander and Elizabeth

J. (Johnston) Rogers, the former of whom was born in the North of Ireland, and came to the United States in 1826, and three years later to Wheeling, where he lived and died, the latter event taking place in 1887. He followed the calling of a merchant, held the office of Justice of the Peace, and politically was first a Whig and later a Democrat. He was married in Wheeling, his wife being a daughter of Thomas Johnston, who was a member of a prominent old Virginia family, and took up his abode in Ohio County as early as 1799. He also was a merchant and became a prominent citizen and died in 1849, after a well-spent life. The wife of Alexander Rogers was born in Wheeling, in which city she is still living, at the age of seventy-seven years. Their marriage resulted in the birth of two sons: Thomas J., who died in 1864, a merchant by occupation, and James P., the subject of this sketch, and one daughter, Margaret J., who became the wife of F. H. Lange, of Wheeling. The maternal grandfather was of Scotch-Irish descent and in early days was a Justice of the Peace in Wheeling, at which time the office was an important and responsible one. The boyhood days of James P. Rogers were spent in the public schools of Wheeling, where he acquired an excellent education, which he afterwards completed in Jefferson College, Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated in 1860, with the A. B. and A. M. degrees. He took up the study of law in the office of N. Richardson soon after, and in 1863 was admitted to the bar under the old Virginia State Government. He at once began practicing the profession and has successfully pursued this most necessary calling up to the present time, the most of his attention, however, being given to real estate and chancery practice. In 1866 he was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Ohio County, on the Democratic ticket, with which he has been connected ever since he became a voter, and made a most efficient and active officer. On three different occasions he has been nominated for the judgeship of courts, but each time declined the nomination. In his practice he has conducted many important cases to a successful issue, and his arguments before judge and jury are both logical and convincing. He is one of the oldest legal practitioners of Wheeling and is considered one of the leading legal lights of that bar. He was married in 1874 to the daughter of George Jackson, of Ohio, and to them three children have been born: George J., who is attending the University of Virginia; Elizabeth J., who is attending school in Shelbyville, Kentucky, and Dora K., who is still in the public schools of Wheeling. Mr. Rogers is a member of the Masonic Lodge, also a college lodge and he and his family are attendants of the Episcopal Church, in which he is a warden. He was the representative from this diocese to the General Convention of 1883. Mr.

Rogers was reared in the merchant tailor business and up to the time he entered college, he followed that business, but to one of his active mind and energetic disposition this work was not congenial and time has proved that he found an excellent field for his talents in the legal profession.

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## WILLIAM A. M'GINNIS.

That Mr. McGinnis is a man of good business acumen is well known in Preston County, West Virginia, where he was born January 27, 1843. That he is a representative citizen is as well known. His grandfather, Matthew McGinnis, of Irish descent, was a native of the State of New Jersey, from which in early life he went to Frederick County, Virginia, where he married, and with his brothers-in-law, David, Samuel R. and Jesse Trowbridge, about the year 1800, he became one of the first settlers of the vicinity of Kingwood, the county seat of Preston County, where William McGinnis, his father, was born March 23, 1808, where midst the disadvantages of frontier life he arrived at manhood, and October 4, 1832, was married to Miss Susanna Metheny, daughter of Absalom and Susan Metheny, also honored early settlers of the county. Purchasing land a few miles from his place of birth, Mr. McGinnis engaged in agricultural pursuits, which he continued through life, and at the age of over eighty-four years, died July 13, 1892, his wife surviving till the 29th of the same month. William A. was the youngest of five sons born to this worthy couple. The eldest son, Allen C., died in childhood; David E., the eldest living, resides in this State; James H. and Joseph B., substantial citizens and farmers, follow their vocations near the old home. There were two daughters, Catharine S. and Mary J., younger than our subject, the former dying August 28, 1891, aged forty-six years; the latter is the wife of J. Lee Shafer, and resides on the home farm. The early life of William A. was uneventful. There being no public schools he received his scholastic training in the home and subscription school. Although exempt from military duty by reason of physical infirmity, at the age of twenty years, his patriotism overcame disability, and on July 13, 1863, he entered the Federal service, serving as Corporal of Company B, Fourth West Virginia Cavalry, until discharged March 8, 1864. Returning from the army he resumed farming, and on August 3, 1865, was married to Sarah E.

Pratt, whose grandfather was one of the early settlers of, and her father Henry, a citizen of Preston County. By reason of failing health, in 1869, Mr. McGinnis located in Rowlesburgh, a railroad town in West Virginia, where he engaged in the manufacture of saddles and harness. In 1871, he settled where he now resides, Terra Alta, a thriving town in his native county, where he continued the business to March, 1893. Disposing of the business, he has since given his attention chiefly to collections and real estate business.

Politically, Mr. McGinnis affiliated with the Republican party from its organization to 1892, casting his first vote against the ordinance of secession in 1861 and for Abraham Lincoln for President in 1864. He has always been a staunch supporter of the temperance cause, and in 1892 adopted the principles of prohibition and has since been identified with that party. He has frequently represented his vicinity in county and Congressional conventions; served his people as magistrate, and member of his county court; is an active member of the orders of Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows of his town, and is Past Grand of the latter. He is a man of excellent business capacity and well-trying and known integrity whose life is above reproach. He and his wife have from early youth been members and liberal supporters of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and to them were born two sons, who died in infancy. To the pure and the good, and for the amelioration of the wants of the unfortunate and deserving, his house, his heart and hand are always open.

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## ALEXANDER DUFF.

In a review of the various enterprises that have made Clarksburg an active center of business it is instructive and interesting to note the advances that have been made in all, and to ascertain exactly what has been achieved by energy and capital. In looking over the field, it is comparatively easy to see that the building and lumber enterprises have exercised an important influence upon the growth and prosperity of commerce. The City of Clarksburg is excellently represented in this respect by a flourishing concern known as Clarksburg Planing Mill Company, which was established in 1870, by R. T. Lowndes, Alexander Duff, H. W. Hoskinson and Jasper Pew. It

was started as a partnership concern, but was incorporated in 1892 with a capital stock of \$30,000. The company is doing a general line of contracting and building, and many of the largest buildings and finest residences in the city have been erected by this concern. Alexander Duff, who is the manager and treasurer of this enterprise, has made a reputation for the execution of high-grade work, and is universally considered a trustworthy member of his calling. He was born in Bath County, Virginia, December 1, 1834, and is a son of William and Elizabeth (Hoover) Duff. The father was born in the Shenandoah Valley of the Old Dominion, where his forefathers settled in 1732, in what is now called Culpeper County, and he was of Scotch-Irish origin. Jacob Hoover, our subject's maternal grandfather, was a native of Germany, and came to this country in time to take part in the Revolutionary War. He served under General Putnam at Bunker Hill and was with General Washington during the terrible winter spent at Valley Forge. He was wounded at the battle of Brandywine, but was not permanently injured, for he lived to be one hundred and five years old, dying in 1841 or '42. He was a farmer all his life. Mrs. Duff was born in Bath County, Virginia, and there she and her husband celebrated their nuptials. In 1839 they came to Harrison County, West Virginia, after having spent a year in Randolph County, and settled near Clarksburg, where Mr. Duff engaged in tilling the soil. There they resided until the death of Mrs. Duff in 1856, after which Mr. Duff went to Ohio and there passed the remainder of his days. He and wife reared a family of nine children: John, who died in Ohio, leaving a family; George W., a soldier in the Mexican War, serving in a Pennsylvania regiment, and afterward located in Harrison County, West Virginia. From there he moved to Doddridge County and died in August, 1894, when seventy years of age; Richard, who died in Indiana; Alexander (subject); Martin V., who resides in Missouri, and James M., died in Wheeling, West Virginia. He was a soldier in the Civil War, Third West Virginia Infantry, and was later in the Sixth Mounted Infantry; Margaret and Mary S., both of whom live in Clarksburg. Alexander Duff was about six years of age when he came with his parents to Harrison County and he secured his scholastic training in the common schools. When he had grown to mature years he began learning the trade of cabinet-maker, but later began learning carpentering, which he has since followed. He was sixteen years of age when he came to Clarksburg to live and this city has since continued to be his home. During the Civil War he enlisted in the Seventh West Virginia Regiment, Second Army Corps, Second Division, and Third Brigade, as a private. After the war he settled in Clarksburg, followed his trade as carpenter and

builder, and assisted in establishing the planing mill in this city. In his life companion Mr. Duff selected Miss Sarah Peck, daughter of John Peck, of this city, who was born and reared in this county. For thirty years Mr. Duff has been a Mason, is a member of Harmon Lodge No. 6, and has held many of the offices in the same. He is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Custer Post No. 8, and last year, 1894, he commanded the same. He also held the office of Senior Vice-Commander, and he is Past Grand in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. For a number of years he has belonged to the Sons of Temperance. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party, and is a man who has never asked for public office. In a business way, Mr. Duff has been successful, and as a citizen he commands the respect of all.

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## ISAAC N. BROWN.

If a man be successful as a tiller of the soil he must not be only energetic and progressive, but he must possess sound judgment and must be quick to make the most of the opportunities that present themselves. Such a man is I. N. Brown and the result is that he is the owner of 1,500 acres of land, a portion of which he has acquired by inheritance. He was born in Fauquier County, Virginia, June 21, 1842, and his youthful days were spent in labor on the home farm, but unfortunately his advantages for acquiring an education were limited. He remained with and assisted his father until the opening of the Civil War, then, as his sympathies were with the South, he enlisted in the Twenty-fifth Virginia Infantry and was commissioned to the Army of the Potomac. He saw some extremely hard service and was in many of the most important and bloody combats of the war, notably Gettysburg. At the battle of Allegheny, December 13, 1861, he lost his left arm, which was amputated about four inches below the elbow, and after he had remained in the hospital until the wound healed, he again joined his command, used a musket with one hand and was a useful and valuable soldier. He was at times detailed to care for the horses and thus continued to the termination of hostilities. After the surrender of Lee he surrendered at Winchester, and there obtained transportation to Clarksburg, West Virginia. After his return home he was engaged in work about the farm for some time, but after his marriage in 1866, the management of the home farm fell to him and after his

parents' death it came into his possession and has since been his home. During the Winter months he has done some lumbering, and by good management he has added to the old place until he now has a very fine farm, with about 400 acres cleared and under cultivation. He has given much attention to the raising of stock, horses, cattle and sheep principally, and as he has found this to be very profitable he has continued it up to the present. He has leased some of his land for coal privileges and a considerable portion of the rest is covered with fine and valuable oak, poplar and walnut timber. His wife was formerly Miss Elzara Conrad, a daughter of Chrisman Conrad, who was a farmer of this county, and died in 1879. To Mr. and Mrs. Brown nine children have been born: Homer, married, and the father of two children; George D., also married; Martha C., Daniel C., Alfred W., Mary E. Nancy E., Grover Cleveland and Thomas Hendricks. Mr. Brown's parents were Alfred W. and Mary E. (Herrell) Brown, both of whom were born in Fauquier County, Virginia, and but little is known of the early history of the family. They became the parents of two children: I. N. Brown and Sallie A., who married James Sears, and died in 1894, leaving nine children. I. N. Brown has always been a Democrat politically, but has never been an official aspirant.

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## A. W. MARTIN.

The calling of the farmer is the primitive occupation of man, and the majority of those who have followed it have led upright and blameless lives, and very frequently by no means an inactive one as regards the interest and part he has taken in the public affairs of the section in which he has made his home. The career of A. W. Martin is no exception to this rule, but he is now retired from active life and is enjoying the fruits of his early efforts. He is a product of the county in which he now lives (Harrison, West Virginia), and was born December 19, 1816, his parents being William and Jane (Chidester) Martin. The former was a native of Newark, New Jersey, and as he was left fatherless when a small lad, he was partly reared by John B. Bray, who was an old soldier of the Revolution, in which struggle William also took a part, later receiving a pension for his services. He was in the Commissary Department and was always faithful to every duty assigned him. He came west to what is now West Virginia, but was then a part of





*W. Martin*



Virginia, shortly after the close of the Revolutionary War, and located on what is called the Lang farm, near Bridgeport, this county, but in 1785 came to Clarksburg, and about the same time was elected Sheriff of Harrison County. He lived in the old stone house that stands on Main Street, and for sixteen years of his residence in Clarksburg he held the office of Sheriff and was also Justice of the Peace for many years. He died in 1852, aged about eighty-eight years. He was the owner of a large farm about four miles from Clarksburg, which is now known as the Gore farm, besides other valuable property. Politically, he was a Whig, was active in political matters, and being a pleasing and intelligent speaker, stumped the county when it extended over a wide territory. He belonged to the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and for many years was connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was first married soon after coming to the State to Miss Susan Stout, daughter of an old pioneer of the county, and the children born to them were John, James, William, Alexander and Marshall. After the death of his first wife in 1812 or 1813, he married Jane Chidester, who was born in this county about 1798. She died in 1884 at the age of eighty-six years, having become the mother of four sons and two daughters, of whom the subject of this sketch was the eldest. The others are: Granville, who made the overland journey to California, in '49, and died in that State in 1851; Luther is a man of family and is in the lumber business in the State of Washington; Fay died in Huntington in 1890; Louise married John H. Shuttleworth, of Clarksburg, and Emily, who married Dr. B. F. McKean. A. W. Martin was born on the old farm owned by his father, and his education was obtained in the early schools of the county. When he had attained his majority he left the home of his parents and went to Louisiana, where he dealt in cotton for six years and was also engaged in merchandising and farming. He returned to his old home in 1848 and the following year formed a company to go to the gold fields of California. The company consisted of forty-four men, and fourteen wagons were necessary to carry their commodities. The journey was completed at the end of five months and there Mr. Martin remained for three years, successfully engaged in mining and trading in horses and cattle. His return trip was made by the Isthmus of Panama and New York City, and he reached home in 1853. He at once turned his attention to farming, and this occupation continued to receive his attention up to within a few years ago, when he retired, and moved to Clarksburg. He is a stockholder in the Traders' National Bank, has been successful in all his business ventures and has a comfortable and handsome home in Clarksburg. At the time of the war he was Deputy Sheriff of the

county, and has always supported the men and measures of the Republican party. He was married in this county in 1864 to Miss Caroline Hart, daughter of Elmore Hart, one of the old pioneers of this county. Mrs. Martin was born in Virginia and died May 2, 1887. The two children she bore her husband died in infancy. She was a woman of strong character, loved and respected by all, generous and helpful to the poor and an earnest worker in the Presbyterian Church, with which Mr. Martin is also connected.

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## WILLIAM R. JEWELL.

The old and honorable calling of the farmer is that to which Mr. Jewell has devoted his life with the result that he is in good financial circumstances. He owes his nativity to Lewis County, West Virginia, November 29, 1852, and was there reared to a knowledge of farm life and at the same time acquired a practical education in the district schools, and this was supplemented by instruction in the higher branches from his father, who was a successful teacher. After he had reached the age of eighteen years he commenced teaching school, and this occupation he continued to follow for about five years. In 1881 he was married and having received a small amount from his father's estate, he commenced the struggle of life on a farm, first near Janelew, but in 1883 traded this farm for one eight miles south of Weston in his native county, and is now the owner of 399 acres on Skin Creek, of which 340 acres are cleared. The greater part of the improvements that have been made on this place have been due to Mr. Jewell's efforts, and although he raises the cereals quite extensively, the most of his attention is devoted to the raising of cattle and sheep, particularly the latter, for he has found that his farm is especially adapted to grazing. In addition to the fact that his land is very valuable for the raising of stock it is even more so from the fact that it is underlaid with coal, although no effort has been made to develop it. Much of the land in the neighborhood has been leased for the development of oil wells.

Since 1885, Mr. Jewell has been trading in stock very extensively and ships to Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York. Upon reaching manhood, Mr. Jewell was married to Miss Catherine A. Fisher, a daughter of Levi P. Fisher, of this state, a farmer, and who is now Commissioner of the Poor,

which position he has held for many years. To Mr. and Mrs. Jewell four children have been born: Levi, Florence, Albert and Gay. Mr. Jewell is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, while politically he has ever been a Republican. He has been a candidate for various offices on this ticket, but owing to the fact that the county is largely Democratic he has always been defeated. His parents were Albert and Catherine H. (Ramsey) Jewell, the former of whom was born in Maine, and while still a single man came to West Virginia, about 1847. His father was Anson Jewell, a direct descendant of Thomas Jewell, who was born in England about 1600 and was a relative of Bishop John Jewell, of North Devonshire, who was born in 1522 and died in 1571. Thomas Jewell came to America about 1639, at which time he had a wife and one child, according to the records at Boston. Albert Jewell, father of the subject of this sketch, was a school teacher for some years before and after his marriage, and was one of the few who obtained a certificate to teach under the free-school system in its early days in this state. He also carried on farming after his marriage, but this occupation he gave up in 1862 to enlist in the Union army. After a short service his health failed and he was honorably discharged for disability and returned home. He was a Union Democrat and died in September, 1868. His widow is still living and has attained to the advanced age of eighty-three years. Her father, John Ramsey, was a Virginian of Scotch descent, and a farmer by occupation. The children born to Albert and Catherine H. Jewell were named as follows: Mary S., who became the wife of V. B. Flesher, Martha A. died unmarried, Flavilla C. became the wife of A. A. Maddox, William R. and Florence, who became the wife of F. G. Brown.

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## REV. WILLIAM N. EDGELL.

This substantial and useful citizen was born in Wetzel County, Virginia, in 1846, the son of Rev. James and Mary (Cain) Edgell, who were born in Greene County, Pennsylvania, about 1820, and in what is now Taylor County, West Virginia, in 1826, respectively. They were married in Doddridge County and soon after located in Wetzel County, where they still live, the father being now a superannuated minister of the Methodist Church. At the opening of the Civil War he joined Company H, First West Virginia Volun-

teer Infantry, was under General John Pope, in the Army of the Potomac, and took part in the battle of Winchester, in 1862, besides other important engagements. In ante-bellum days he was a Democrat, but after the great struggle between the North and South he became a staunch Republican. His father, William Edgell, came from Pennsylvania to Wetzel County, settled on a woodland farm, became a noted hunter, and died when the subject of this sketch was an infant. His wife, Sarah (Barker) Wetzell, also died here. She was the mother of twelve children. The maternal grandparents of Rev. William N. Edgell, Thomas and Anna (Pride) Cain, were originally from Taylor County, Virginia, but eventually passed from life in Doddridge County, the father ceasing to live in 1863. They reared a large family. To the union of James and Mary (Cain) Edgell the following children were born: Eliza, the deceased wife of John Barker; William N., Anna, wife of Evan Morgan, of Wetzel County; Thomas B., of this county; Elizabeth, wife of Ellis Shreve, of Harrison County; Henry, of Wetzel County; Sarah, wife of C. S. Lowe, of Harrison County; Ezra, of Wetzel County; Charles, also of that county; Nancy, wife of Samuel Anderson, of Wetzel County; Mary, wife of Isaac Anderson, of that county; Walter V., also a resident of that county; Margaret, wife of Wesley Cunningham, of Wetzel County; Martha, wife of John Welsh, of the same county; James, Ulysses Grant, and one child whose name cannot be recalled. Rev. William N. Edgell was reared on his father's farm, under earnest religious guidance, but he unfortunately received but limited educational advantages, although his naturally clear and retentive mind stored up a vast fund of useful information. In December, 1862, he dropped all personal considerations to take up arms in defense of the Stars and Stripes, and he became a member of Company B, of an independent company of West Virginia Volunteers, but on the 14th of March, 1864, was transferred to Company H, First West Virginia Volunteer Infantry, being in the same command as his father, with whom he served until July, 1865, taking part in a number of sharp battles, the most important of which was the engagement at Winchester. After the war was over he returned to his former pursuits and in 1868 led to the altar Miss Edith, daughter of John and Susan (Shaver) Robinson, who early became residents of Harrison County. Here Mr. Robinson passed from life, his widow still surviving him. Mrs. Edgell owes her nativity to Harrison County, and here her seven children have been born: Ulysses C., Susannah, wife of John Madden; Lot O., Ida, Mary, Ira, Galey G. After six years' residence in Doddridge County, Mr. Edgell came to Harrison County and here he has since been engaged in farming, being the owner of 176 acres, for which he paid \$600 in

cash, going in debt for the remainder. A few years ago he purchased the old mill at Brown's mill, for which he also went in debt, but he has been very fortunate financially and has greatly improved his property by putting in the roller process, having two stands of short rollers with a capacity of twenty-five barrels per day. He has been chaplain of Husted Post No. 115, Grand Army of the Republic, and is an active worker for the Republican party. In 1872, he was ordained a minister of the Methodist Church by Bishop Simpson, of Wheeling, and although he has never had a regular charge, he has done noble service as a supply minister and is an influential worker for the Christian cause.

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## DANIEL BOUGHNER.

This prominent merchant of Clarksburg, West Virginia, and honorable and useful citizen is the head of the present Boughner family of this section. He owes his nativity to Greene County, Pennsylvania, where he was born December 30, 1816, a son of Daniel and Mary (Vance) Boughner, whose ancestors came to this country during its colonial period. In the county which gave him birth Daniel Boughner attained manhood, and the country schools there afforded him a practical education. About 1830, soon after his marriage, he moved to Ritchie Court House, Ritchie County, West Virginia (then Virginia) and engaged in the mercantile business, remaining there until 1865, when he took up his residence in Clarksburg. During the Civil War he was loyal to the Union, and his son, Oliver P., had his hearty sympathy when he enlisted in the Federal army. Upon taking up his residence in Clarksburg, Mr. Boughner engaged in his former occupation—merchandising—in company with his son, Oliver, and up to the present time this calling has occupied his time and attention. In 1873, his son, Homer D., was admitted to the firm, and they are now in command of a very large trade, a result of upright business methods, a desire to please those who patronize them, and to the fact that an excellent class of goods is always kept. Mr. Boughner has followed this business for over fifty years and may be said to thoroughly understand every detail of it and is pushing and enterprising in his management of his affairs, and public-spirited and helpful in everything

that concerns the welfare of his section. Although he has attained the age of seventy-eight years, he is still vigorous and hale and has not been sick a day for forty years—a fact of which few can boast. For about half a century he has been an active member of the Baptist Church, is at present one of the deacons and is president of the Board of Trustees. Politically, he has always been a Republican. He was married in Greene County, Pennsylvania, to Miss Ellen Patterson, a daughter of H. and Sarah Patterson, and in 1889 was called upon to mourn the death of his worthy wife, whose birth occurred at Woodsfield, Ohio, December 30, 1819. Her mother lived to the advanced age of ninety-three years and died at Clarksburg, in 1891. To Mr. and Mrs. Boughner six children were given: Oliver P., Alice, Homer D., Laura, Daniel W. and Myra. The last mentioned died at the age of three years. Alice is the wife of Rev. Stephen Drummond, of Washington, Pennsylvania.

Oliver P. Boughner, the eldest child of Daniel Boughner, was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, March 4, 1843, but as he was brought to Virginia by his parents at the age of seven years, his education was acquired in this State, first in the public schools of Ritchie Court House and later in Moore's Academy, at Morgantown. When the great Civil War opened he was eighteen years of age, and his patriotism and love of the "Stars and Stripes" found expression in his enlistment, in January, 1862, in the Tenth West Virginia Infantry (under Colonel P. M. Harris), and with his command he took part in the long hard marches and numerous battles in which it was engaged. He was with Sheridan in the Valley of the Shenandoah, and took part in the battle of Winchester, where he was wounded September 19, 1864, by a gun shot in the left arm. He was disabled for some time, but as soon as practicable he returned to his command and was in active service until the war closed. He was taken a prisoner at Flat Wood, West Virginia, October 8, 1862, and after being confined in Libby Prison for one week was paroled on the 30th of October. He was again taken prisoner by Mosby, in 1864, but effected his escape the same night and rejoined his command. He was a loyal, faithful and useful soldier and at the time he was wounded he was serving as Assistant Adjutant-General of a brigade. He received honorable promotion in the battle of Winchester, but he declined to accept the office tendered him. He received a letter from General P. M. Harris some time ago, in which the latter says: "I have often felt of late that I ought to write to you and express my sense of indebtedness to you for the assistance you gave me in the discharge of my duties as commander of a regiment, and that so largely combined to my success and consequent promotion. I cannot sufficiently express to you my appreciation



of your ability, your indomitable courage and unfaltering patriotism." After the war was over Mr. Boughner returned to his home and soon embarked in business with his father at Clarksburg, where he has been ever since. He is a staunch Republican in politics and has held a number of local offices in Clarksburg, although he is by no means an office-seeker. He is a member of Custer Post No. 8, of the Grand Army of the Republic, at Clarksburg. He was married to Miss Bertha Spales, daughter of Colonel T. S. Spales, of Clarksburg, and they have one son—Marston—aged thirteen years.

Homer D. Boughner, the second son of Daniel Boughner, was born in Greene County, Pennsylvania, October 5, 1848, and was educated in the common schools, the academy of Morgantown, and at Princeton College, New Jersey, graduating from the latter institution as Master of Arts, in 1871. After his graduation he passed a year in Nebraska as a civil engineer, but returned to West Virginia the following year and became associated in business with his father and brother. He is an active worker in the Baptist Church, and has been superintendent of the Sunday school for nearly two decades. He is an active Republican in politics, is secretary of the County Examining Committee, is secretary and treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the ———— Institute, and has always taken a deep interest in educational matters. He was married to Miss Cora Lee Kerfoot, of Clark County, Virginia, daughter of James F. and S. O. Kerfoot, and their union has resulted in the birth of four children: Helen, Duncan, Herbert H. and James Kerfoot.

Daniel W. Boughner, the youngest son of Daniel Boughner, was born in Ritchie County, West Virginia, June 18, 1855, but received his education in the county in which he now lives, in the Northwestern Academy, the Fort Edward Collegiate Institute, and completed a business course in the Iron City Commercial College, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1873. He then entered the mercantile establishment of his father and up to 1889 had charge of the grocery department. He was then appointed by President Harrison Postmaster at Clarksburg, and held the office until November, 1893. Like his father and brothers he has always been a warm Republican and was for years secretary of the County Central Committee, and is now secretary of the Goff Club, a Republican organization. He has attended all the State conventions since he became a voter and has attended many district and county conventions also. He is a member of Adelphi Lodge No. 8, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a charter member of Charity Lodge No. 451, Knights of Honor. He is a member of the firm of Summers & Boughner, which was formed in August, 1894, and they have one of the largest fire

insurance offices in the State. They represent the following foreign companies: Royal, Northern and Norwich Union of England, Scottish Union and National of Scotland, and the British America and Western of Canada. The following home companies are represented by these wide-awake business men: Aetna and Hartford, of Hartford; Providence Washington, of Rhode Island; Continental, Westchester and German American, of New York, and the Insurance Company of North America, the Pennsylvania Fire and the Pennsylvania Underwriters, of Philadelphia. The Standard and Franklin, of Wheeling, West Virginia, are also represented. Mr. Boughner was married to a native daughter of Clarksburg, Miss Ada V. Ferguson, daughter of L. D. Ferguson, who was for many years a merchant of this place. They have five children: Burton Z., Valle F., Charles P., Dan G. and Lemuel C.

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## J. AMI MARTIN.

This wide-awake man of affairs, who has been intimately connected with the business interests of Kingwood and Preston County, and has for the past twenty years served as Clerk of the County Court, is a native son of West Virginia, and of the county in which he now resides, his birth having occurred June 6, 1849. His father, Joseph Martin, before him was born in this State and county, as was his grandfather, Philip Martin. The great-grandfather, John Martin, was born on the Isle of Erin, and was one of the honored first settlers of Preston County. He took up his residence in the vicinity of Kingwood and there his son Philip was born and reared. The latter enlisted from this State in the Colonial army to fight for American independence, and was a faithful and useful soldier to the cause which he espoused. Joseph Martin grew to manhood in Preston County and was here united in marriage with Miss Anna Forman, who was also born in this section, and soon after the celebration of their nuptials they settled on a farm near Kingwood and there established a home. Joseph Martin pursued agricultural pursuits with marked success and became one of the thrifty farmers of the county. After rearing his children to honorable manhood and womanhood, and after a useful and well-spent life, his earthly career was closed at the age of fifty-three years, about the year 1870. His wife died November 22, 1863. J. Ami Martin is the third of five children (two sons

and three daughters): George S. reached early manhood and met death by the accidental discharge of his gun; Ruhama, wife of D. R. Beavers, of Kingwood; Mary S., wife of Dr. S. C. Bosley, of Texas, and Rachel G., wife of D. R. Jackson, ex-sheriff of Preston County. J. Ami Martin spent his youth on the old home farm, and received but limited advantages of the public schools there; he is therefore mainly self-educated. While growing up he learned the cooper's trade and when starting out to fight life's battles for himself, he followed that occupation for a time. He came to Kingwood at the age of twenty years and earned his first dollar breaking rock on the streets of that place. He soon, however, secured the position of clerk in the store of W. C. McGrew, one of the leading business men of the place, and for several years remained with him, during which time he received a most thorough and practical business training. He then purchased an interest in the store of Parks & Co., general merchants of Kingwood, and was a partner in this firm up to 1875. He then began discharging the duties of Deputy County Clerk and Deputy Sheriff and jailor, and continued in these offices until October, 1876, when he was elected County Clerk and first took charge of the office October 16, 1876, and by re-election has served up to the present time—over nineteen consecutive years. Mr. Martin has been actively interested in other affairs in the county and is vice-president and general manager of the Tunnelton, Kingwood & Fairchance Railroad, which was established in 1882, and is one of its original stockholders. On the 17th of September, 1888, he was elected superintendent of this road, and at once assumed management, and so ably and intelligently has he discharged his duties that he has been promoted to his present office.

The road is built on the narrow gauge plan and extends from Tunnelton on the Baltimore & Ohio road to Kingwood, but already Mr. Martin has secured ties and other necessary materials and expects to make this a standard gauge road during the Summer of 1895. The entire life of Mr. Martin has been spent in the county of his birth, and it is therefore not greatly to be wondered at that he is one of the most progressive and public-spirited men there, and has prominently identified himself with her various institutions and movements for the benefit of the section. He is a man of tried integrity and worth, and has the universal respect of his fellow-men. On the 23d of April, 1875, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary S. Snider, a native of Preston County, who was reared and educated in Kingwood, the daughter of Jacob Snider, an honored old settler of this county. Four children have been born to this marriage: Grace, a well-educated young lady at home; Bessie, who is attending the Methodist Episcopal Conference Seminary at

Buchanan; Paul H., and Carroll F., who is attending the Kingwood High School. Mr. Martin is a member of the Kingwood Masonic Lodge, with which he has been connected for twenty-two years, and is Past Master of his lodge. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Kingwood; has been an official member and leader of the choir for twenty years, and for ten years was superintendent of the Sunday school. His life has been characterized by energy and perseverance, and that it has been one of usefulness and benefit to others cannot be doubted when a glance is given at his past record.

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### J. C. IRONS, M. D.

This is the oldest physician in practice at Elkins, and by the large practice which he commands it will readily be seen that he has a thorough knowledge of his profession and has put his knowledge to a practical use. He was born in Monroe County, West Virginia (then Virginia), in 1853, the sixth of ten children born to John and Susanna (Young) Irons, who were also natives of that county. The paternal grandfather, Thomas Irons, was a native of Bonnie Scotland, but when still a young man decided to come to the New World, and upon his arrival here settled in Monroe County, Virginia, where he devoted his attention to tilling the soil. He was married to a Miss Parker, a native of that section, a daughter of one of the early pioneers. He was a man of deep religious tendencies and was an elder in the first Presbyterian Church organized in that county. The maternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, and his wife Mary, were from Augusta County, Virginia, and were among the early settlers of Monroe County. John Irons, like his father before him, was a tiller of the soil and this occupation pursued with much success in Monroe County. His wife died in 1886. Their sons and daughters were named as follows: William Young, who served as a private with his brother, B. F. Irons, in the War of the Rebellion, under General Early, and when the war closed, returned home and engaged for a few years in tilling the soil; but not being satisfied with this humdrum life, in 1868 he began the study of dentistry under Dr. T. W. Crosier, his cousin. He followed this solely for a number of years, after which he engaged in merchandising for about five years. He is now living in his

native county on a farm, and divides his time between farming and his profession. In 1876, he married Miss Mollie Knapp, of Greenbrier County. Of this union, one daughter and four sons are their pride and solace: Sarah Ellen married A. Y. Leach, and is now living in the Knobs, in Monroe County; Estaline was married to J. J. H. Tracy, of Wolf Creek, Monroe County. She died in 1888, after a lingering illness, leaving a large family of children. Benjamin Franklin, who first studied medicine in the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, then at Miami Medical College, Cincinnati, from which latter institution he was graduated. He located for the practice of his profession at Alderson, West Virginia, and was there married to Miss Amanda S. Johnson. In 1876, he moved to Pickaway, Monroe County, and here was called from life. He was a member of the State Board of Health several years and was holding that position at the time of his death. He took an active part in county politics and was elected to the Legislature in 1880 as a Democrat, during which time he labored energetically in framing the bill governing the practice of medicine in the State of West Virginia. He was an exceptionally intelligent and well-posted man, not only as regards his profession, but also in the general affairs of the county; Robert H. is tilling the soil on the old homestead; Letcher, the youngest of the sons, graduated in 1886 from the dental department of Vanderbilt University, at Nashville, Tennessee, and soon after located in Illinois for the practice of his profession; Dr. J. C. Irons, and Margaret Hannah, James, Rutherford and Augustus Newton, who died in infancy. Dr. J. C. Irons, the subject of this sketch, acquired in the public schools of Monroe County his literary education to a great extent, and after pursuing his studies in them until he was twenty-one years of age, he engaged in teaching, continuing this occupation for two years, after which he attended high school for one year, and then again taught for two years. Following this he entered the Medical Department of Central University, at Louisville, Kentucky, from which he was graduated with honor in 1881. In the fall of that year he located at Huttonsville, Randolph County, West Virginia, and two years later was married there to Miss Mary L. Suitor. In the Fall of 1886 he returned to his old home and after remaining there two years came to Elkins, where he has since been actively engaged in the pursuit of his profession and has built up a large practice, which is continually growing. He has been very active in the affairs of the county since locating here and in 1890 was elected Mayor of the town, he being the first Mayor after the place was incorporated. He served thus one year and was a member of the Town Council of 1892. For two years he served as president of his school district. To the doctor and

his wife five children have been born: Paul Lamar, Abbie Sutor, Robert Sidney, Esta Eilleen and Ben Hamilton. Dr. and Mrs. Iron are members of the Presbyterian and the Methodist Episcopal Church South, respectively, and he is an elder of his church and an active Sunday school worker.

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## HON. SAMUEL WOODS, LL. D.

Judge Woods was born in the Parish of Aubert Gallion des Isles, Beauce County, Canada East, September 19, 1822. His parents, Adam and Jane (Long) Woods, were born in Ireland and migrated from Belfast in 1818, and settled in Quebec. From thence they came in 1824 to Meadville, Crawford County, Pennsylvania, where the father followed his trade as a plasterer. He was one of a family of fourteen children, of whom one brother, William, was a soldier in the British army, and was killed in Flanders. Another brother, John, died in the City of Lisbon. Three others, Isaac, Michael and James, lived and died on the homestead, near Belfast. A sister, Isabella, became the wife of John Britton, and the names of other children are not remembered. Jane, the mother of Judge Woods, died February 27, 1828, and Adam, his father, died in December, 1849. Three sons and four daughters were born to them, viz.: Margaret, who died in 1841; Eliza, wife of Rev. Jacob Matthews, who died at Chapel Hill, Texas, in 1876; Michael, who died at Meadville, Pennsylvania, in 1874; James Hopkins, who died in Colusa, California, in 1873; Jane, who still survives at Burnersville, in Barbour County, West Virginia, as the widow of Stephen M. Holt and Jacob W. Burner; Annie, wife of Azariah Seiple, of Mayville, New York, and Samuel, the subject of this sketch. As a boy, Judge Woods worked at the trade of his father, working with him before he entered Allegheny College in 1839, and during vacations afterward, until he graduated. In that day Allegheny College was the most famous school west of the Allegheny Mountains, and is still one of the first colleges in the country. From there, Judge Woods graduated in 1842 at the age of twenty years, having been associated as the pupil of Calvin Kingsley, who afterward became a bishop in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the classmate of Hon. F. H. Pierpoint, who afterward became Governor of Virginia. After graduation Judge Woods pursued for two years a post-graduate course in French, under a French instructor at the same college. His education was classical, and the high curriculum of the



Samuel Woods

Engraved by H. W. Phillips, C. S.





college and its great reputation in his day are the best assurances of the thoroughness of his course.

In 1888, forty-six years after graduation, his alma mater conferred upon Judge Woods the distinguished degree of Doctor of Laws, a degree very sparingly conferred by this institution, and received only by a very few of its graduates in the whole three-quarters of a century of its existence. It was a very conspicuous collegiate honor.

Judge Woods was not only a classical scholar, but he was specially fond of French and the higher mathematics, and is so still at the age of seventy-three years. His familiarity with and aptness at quotations from the poets have ever made him a charming companion for persons of like tastes. It is said that in his youth, with a marvelous passion for the poems of Scott, he committed to memory at one reading, the whole of his poem, called "The Lady of the Lake." At any rate, it is very certain that his power of recollection at this day of this poem and others of like length, is truly wonderful. A large private library, not to mention his extensive law library, is the result of this fondness for literary works.

In 1845, Judge Woods began the study of the law under T. J. Fox Alden, a noted lawyer of the Pittsburgh bar. It was Alden's Index to the Reports of the Supreme Court of the United States which first reduced to order the numerous and valuable syllabi of the opinions of that celebrated court. Under the tutorship of Mr. Alden, and by reason of his own fine scholastic training, Judge Woods not only became a concise special pleader, but also an advocate of great power. Within the period of thirty-five years, from the time he located at his present home, in Philippi, Barbour County, West Virginia, until his retirement from active practice, in 1883, when he became, by the appointment of Governor Jacob B. Jackson, of West Virginia, one of the four judges of its Supreme Court of Appeals, his practice had extended to almost every important case, which it was possible for him to attend to under the arrangement of the Judicial Circuits of that State. When he went upon the bench, in 1883, he relinquished a large clientage, and a practice far more remunerative than was the salary attached to his office, but in West Virginia the Supreme bench is the Court of Last Resort, the Ultima Thule of the legal profession, and a post of great responsibility and honor.

Upon the bench Judge Woods was the associate of Judge Okey Johnson, now dean of the Law Faculty of the University of West Virginia, of Judge Thomas C. Green, now deceased, of Jefferson County, and of Judge Adam C. Snyder, now retired, of Greenbrier County. During the period of his

incumbency the opinions of the Court were reported and printed in volumes 21 to 31, inclusive, of the Supreme Court Reports. Judge Woods' mind was essentially judicial, and long before his nomination and election to the bench in 1884, subsequent to his appointment by the Governor, he had sat as Special Judge and decided the Jackson-Loomins judicial contest, reported in Volume 6, of the Supreme Court Reports. That was the first decision settling a judicial contest ever decided in either of the two Virginias, and settled the law upon that subject in West Virginia.

On the 19th of April, 1849, Judge Woods was married to Miss Isabella Neeson, of Meadville, Pennsylvania, and from thence until now, except during the period embraced by the Civil War, has resided at Philippi, West Virginia. He has lived comfortably, accumulated a competence, attained eminence in the law, and eschewed politics. In 1861 he was elected a member of the Virginia Convention, which convened at Richmond, and voted for the Ordinance of Secession, and afterward cast his fortunes with the South, and during the war was attached to the quartermaster's department of the famous "Stonewall" Brigade, commanded by General T. J. ("Stonewall") Jackson, and was engaged at the battle of Chancellorsville, where that officer lost his life. In the convention he represented and espoused that view of the Federal Constitution, represented by his previous enunciations upon the hustings, viz.:

"That the Union of the United States is a Union of Independent Sovereignties, except so far as they may have surrendered portions of their sovereignty to the Confederacy of the United States, for the purposes specified in the Constitution of the United States.

"That every state adopted the Constitution of the United States as part and parcel of its State Constitution; that it may of right resume all its rights and sovereignty for such causes, as it may deem sufficient for itself without giving just cause of offense to any other State that may decline to do so.

"That the allegiance which the citizens of each State owe to the Federal Government of the United States, is subordinate to that due to each State, and may be lawfully withdrawn by each State whenever it may deem it to its interest to do so; that when any State exercises these rights by seceding from the present Union of the United States every citizen of such State is bound to render obedience and allegiance to it alone.

"That there exists no lawful authority in any Government, State or Federal, to coerce any State to return to the Union that may have in its sovereign capacity seceded from it, and that any attempt to do so is an in-

vasion of the sovereignty of such State, and is equivalent to a declaration of war against it, and ought to be resisted at every hazard and to the last extremity.

"That the Constitution of the United States, while its provisions have been observed, has given to the people peace and security at home, and power and influence abroad, and if preserved will give the same to our posterity; and that every effort and sacrifice, not inconsistent with the sovereign rights and honor of Virginia, should be made to preserve the same from destruction."

At the close of the war Judge Woods accepted in good faith the decision of political questions which the appeal to arms had settled, and renewed the practice of his profession at his former home. In 1869, the Legislature of West Virginia, which was almost wholly Republican, by a Special Act, relieved him from the provisions of the "Lawyer's Test Oath" previously required by it of attorneys who had participated in the war upon the side of the South, and his conservative course in the years following led to his nomination and election to a seat in the Constitutional Convention, which assembled at Charleston, now the Capital of the State, in 1872, and which framed the present Constitution of the State. Judge Woods was elected as a Democrat from the six counties of Braxton, Lewis, Upshur, Barbour, Randolph and Tucker, comprising his Senatorial District, by a majority of 2251 votes, the largest majority given to any man elected to that convention, thus evidencing his great popularity, as did also his subsequent election, as Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeals, when in 1884 he outran the balance of the judicial ticket by 340 votes.

In the convention, Judge Woods was chairman of the Committee on Bill of Rights and Elections, and supported its reports with conspicuous ability. He was also a member of the "Select Revisory Committee," a committee chosen with a view to verbal criticism and emendation of the whole work of the convention. It was a committee of learned and polished scholars, among whom were Hon. Charles James Faulkner, Sr., Minister to France, under President Buchanan, previously, and subsequently a member of Congress, and the father of Hon. C. J. Faulkner, Jr., now United States Senator from West Virginia; ex-United States Senator Waitman T. Willey, Judges Alpheus F. Haymond and Okey Johnson, afterward members of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia; Profs. Wm. K. Pendleton and Benjamin Byrne, ex-State Superintendents of Free Schools; Judge James D. Armstrong, of Hampshire County, and Messrs. Wm. H. Travers, of Jefferson County, and Alonza Cushing, of Mason County, two of the most eminent members of the convention. The ability, wisdom and moderation of Judge

Woods in the convention secured for him the almost universal approval of the press and public. Ex-Senator Willey, a Republican member of the body, is said to have expressed his opinion that Judge Woods was "unquestionably the ablest debater on the floor;" and Mr. Faulkner pronounced him a "most judicious constitutional emendator." The success of the Constitution before the people for adoption was largely due to Judge Woods' public and printed addresses, made throughout the State in its support. A paper setting forth the virtues of the New Constitution in comparison with the old one, was published by authority, and scattered by thousands, by friends of the New Constitution, throughout the State, and by its enemies denominated a "bull" or "manifesto" to whose magic influence, toward the close of the canvass, the success of the New Constitution was largely attributed.

In church matters, Judge Woods has always been a conspicuous Methodist, having filled almost every position conferred upon laymen by that church, and having contributed of his substance generously to its support. Although now seventy-three, his attendance upon every service of the church is unbroken. His step is light and elastic. He is of symmetrical build, slightly gray, of large frame, cleanly-shaven, and as erect as a youth of twenty. His demeanor is quiet and unobtrusive. His habits are regular and domestic, and he is constantly found engaged. His family, consisting of his wife, Isabella Neeson Woods; his sons, Frank, of Baltimore, Maryland; John Hopkins and Samuel V., and his daughters, Mary Woods Wilson, widow of Thomas Almond Wilson; Belle Woods Byrer, wife of Frederick S. Byrer, of Philippi, and Margaret Woods Brown, wife of Dr. R. L. P. Brown, of Buckhannon, West Virginia, with their children, are about him, and as the shadows lengthen, and the years go by,

"Is Life both sweetened and prolonged."

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## RICHARD H. HARRISON.

A well-conducted newspaper is an excellent educator, and not alone for this is it to be commended, for it is also an invaluable advertising agent, and wields a wide influence in shaping the moral and political views of the people of the section in which it is issued. The Weston Democrat is an admirably

conducted paper in every way, and its editor and publisher, Richard H. Harrison, is well-fitted, both by education and experience, to conduct it successfully. He was born in Weston, in 1859, the third of six children born to Matthew Waite and Sarah Eliza (Hoffman) Harrison, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. His initiatory training was received in the schools of Weston, after which he completed his education in an institution at Kenyon College, Ohio. From 1879 to 1888, he discharged the duties of Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court, and during this time he also took a course in law at the West Virginia University. In January of the last-mentioned year, he purchased a one-third interest in the Weston Democrat from Judge Thomas A. Edwards, after whose death in January, 1890, his son, J. H. Edwards, and Mr. Harrison conducted the paper till June, 1891, when Robert L. Bland became one of its managers for about a year. Since that time Mr. Harrison has had the sole management of the paper. It is the oldest journal in Lewis County, having been established under its present name in 1867. It was purchased by Judge Edwards, October 30, 1876, and he continued as its sole editor and publisher until Mr. Harrison purchased an interest. He has since his ownership of the paper greatly increased its equipment, has large cylinder presses with electrical appliances and power. His office is furnished with telephone connection to all points in the country, and in every way is admirably fitted up to turn out excellent work. Mr. Harrison has been quite active politically, has been secretary of the County Executive Committee, and has been a delegate to numerous State and district conventions. He was married in 1888 to Miss Kathleen Beattie, of Southwest Virginia, and their union has resulted in the birth of one daughter, Fannie. The family are members of the Episcopal Church.

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## CAPTAIN GEORGE W. HARRISON.

Although a native-born resident of the City of Wheeling, West Virginia, this gentleman has identified himself with the people and institutions of Piedmont, Mineral County, since 1873, and is one of her most active and enterprising business men. His birth occurred May 6, 1837, to George and Clerimond (Woodrow) Harrison, the former a native of England and the

latter of West Virginia. In his early manhood the father came to the United States and located at Wheeling, where he embarked in business, and there he was later married to Miss Woodrow. After a few years they removed to Cumberland, Maryland, where Mr. Harrison engaged in the forwarding and commission business but a few years later returned to Wheeling where he again was engaged in business for a few years. Cumberland, Maryland, then again became his home, and there spent the last years of his life, dying in 1870 at the age of sixty-two years. His widow survived him a number of years, made her home in Piedmont with her son, Captain Harrison, and here ceased to live in 1886, at which time she was seventy-three years old. Captain George W. Harrison spent his early life in Wheeling and Cumberland in which places he received fair educational advantages. After arriving at mature years he entered the service of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad at Wheeling, and continued in the service of that road up to the opening of the war. In May, 1861, he accompanied, as a volunteer aid, Colonel Kelley of the First Virginia Infantry, United States of America, to Grafton, and after the wounding and recovery of the Colonel at Philippi, he was made Brigadier-General, and Mr. Harrison was appointed by President Lincoln, Captain and Assistant Quartermaster and was assigned to General Kelley's staff, and served with him until the close of the war, in the latter capacity being located at Cumberland, Maryland, and Romney, West Virginia, and at New Creek (now known as Keyser). After the war, Captain Harrison located at Cumberland, where he was engaged in merchandising a few years, then was appointed Internal Revenue Collector by President Johnson, in which capacity he served through that administration. The two following years were spent in the Quartermaster's Department, at Chicago, after which he returned to Cumberland, Maryland, and was appointed agent for the Pittsburgh & Connellsville Railroad, with headquarters at Myersdale, but after ably filling this position for one year he resigned. In 1872, he came to Piedmont and for two years was station agent and coal agent for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. Captain Harrison was private secretary for Hon. Henry G. Davis during that gentleman's last term in the United States Senate. As a Democrat he served two terms as Mayor of Piedmont, and seven years as a member of the City Council, but since 1894 he has been independent in politics. He has been a public-spirited citizen, and was instrumental in securing for the town a very fine system of electric lighting, besides an excellent system of water works, being chairman of the committee that secured the last mentioned improvement. The town has now an abundant supply of pure mountain water. In Wheeling, West Virginia, on the 1st of January, 1861, Captain

Harrison was united in marriage with Miss Helen D. Whitteker, a native of West Virginia, reared and educated in Wheeling, and a daughter of Charles Whitteker, a prominent business man of that city. Mrs. Harrison is the granddaughter of the aged Dr. John Eoff, one of the oldest and most eminent physicians of Wheeling, and one of its pioneer settlers. Captain Harrison and his wife are the parents of five children: Virginia, wife of Paul D. Millholland, resides in Reading, Pennsylvania; Helen, wife of Robert Bopes, resides in Brooklyn, New York; Victoria is the wife of D. F. Graham, a prominent business man of Piedmont. H. Frank is an intelligent and capable business man and is chief clerk of the Piedmont Pulp and Paper Company, with an office in New York City, and George W., who is agent of the Central West Virginia & Pittsburgh Railroad at Westernport, Maryland, where he has charge of the office and passenger depot. Captain Harrison is a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained to the Royal Arch degree, and is Commander of the B. B. Shaw Post, of the Grand Army of the Republic at Piedmont. The entire family are members of the Episcopal Church. Captain Harrison has been a resident of West Virginia and Maryland his whole life, and is well known in both these States and in Southern Pennsylvania. In character he is one of the most straight-forward and upright of men and the universal respect and esteem which is accorded him is well merited.

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## NIMROD RUSSELL MORRISON.

As a farmer and stock raiser, Mr. N. R. Morrison has met with a fair degree of success and is classed among the representative agriculturists of this section. He was born in Fauquier County, Virginia, in 1846, the youngest of ten children, born to David and Nancy (Wines) Morrison, natives of that county also, where they resided until 1847. They then came by wagon to Harrison County, being thirteen days on the road, and located on Crooked Run, but a number of years later removed to Lambert's Run, where Mr. Morrison died in 1882, aged eighty-nine years. Farming had been his life-long occupation. He was a Whig in politics, and a soldier in the War of 1812. His father, Edward Morrison, was probably an old countryman. The

father of our subject was three times married, the second wife being our subject's mother. She died during the Rebellion. Ten children were the fruits of this union: Andrew Jackson, of Brooklyn, New York; Martha Ann (deceased) was the wife of Eli Gaines; Isham was accidentally killed on a train; James Henry, Ashton M., Agnes, wife of Josiah W. Lynch, of Kansas; Francis, Thomas, William E. and our subject. Two children, Wheaton A. and Josiah, were born to the last marriage. During his youthful days Nimrod R. Morrison worked hard on the farm and received but meager educational advantages, attending the schools taught in log cabins occasionally. When eighteen years of age he started out to hoe his own way in life, and he first engaged in trading, which he has followed, in connection with farming, for the most part ever since. In the year 1874 he was married to Miss Octavia Bailey, daughter of James Bailey, who now resides with his son-in-law, our subject. Mrs. Morrison was born in Taylor County. Mr. and Mrs. Morrison are the parents of two children, viz.: Anna and Maud, and since their union have resided on the old farm on Crooked Creek, five miles northwest of Clarksburg, where they own 185 acres of some of the finest land in the county. In his religious views Mr. Morrison is a Baptist, and in politics a Democrat. Mrs. Morrison's father, James Bailey, was born in Taylor County, West Virginia, in 1814, and is a son of Thornsberry and Pollie (Bartlett) Bailey. Thornsberry Bailey was a young man when he came to Harrison County, and he here spent the remainder of his life, dying in 1853. His wife, whom he married in Preston County, died a few years later. Both were members of the Baptist Church, and he was a farmer all his life. His father was probably an Englishman. James Bailey was sixth in order of birth of the following children: Edith (deceased) was the wife of William P. Bartlett; Anna, of Barbour County, is the widow of Johnson Pepper; Lydia (deceased) was the wife of Robert Rogers; Hannah (deceased) was the wife of Abraham Hudkins; Eleanor, wife of Gideon Martin. Gideon Martin, D. D., was born in Lewis County, Virginia, now Barbour County, West Virginia, April 30, 1815. His father, Stephen Martin, married Miss Catharine Reger. He presided a number of years on circuits. He has filled six stations, traveled as presiding elder sixteen years, and served in the Union army as chaplain in the Fifteenth Regiment, West Virginia Volunteer Infantry, three years. Three times was he honored with a seat in the General Conference.

Benjamin Bailey was born near Astor, Taylor County, West Virginia, March 9, 1818, and at his death was seventy-six years, ten months and twenty-six days old. He was married to Miss Nancy Hopkins, May 31, 1844.



To them were born three children: John W., Minerva and Howard. At the age of twenty-one he attended Rector College, at Pruntytown, Taylor County, West Virginia. Under President Wheeler he made rapid progress in his studies. He was noted for his critical knowledge of grammar, and for this reason he was put in charge of a class in grammar. For nearly fifty years he devoted himself to the work of teaching. He never seemed to be so much at home as in the school room. At the age of eighteen he made a profession of religion and was licensed to preach.

Being a friend of everybody he solemnized more marriages and attended more funerals than any other minister in the section of the country where he lived. His patriotism and love for his country was unbounded. In the dark days of our Civil War his speech was heard with no uncertain sound. His love of the soldiers for the Union was like that of Jonathan for David. The war being ended his hand was offered alike to Confederate and Federalist.

Little time was given to schooling in Mr. James Bailey's day, but he was thoroughly drilled in agricultural pursuits. In December, 1839, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Ann, daughter of James Wrightmire, who was a successful farmer. Mrs. Bailey was born in Taylor County and died in 1865. This union resulted in the birth of these children: Harriet (deceased) was the wife of Rev. William Newlon; Marshall, of Taylor County; Thornsberry Morton (deceased), James Baxter and Octavia, wife of our subject. Mr. Bailey resided on the place of his birth until about eight years ago, when he went to live with his daughter, Mrs. Morrison. For a number of years he served as township treasurer, and later, for about five years, was assessor of Taylor County. He has ever been honest, industrious and enterprising and has prospered, being now the owner of a good farm in Taylor County. He is a member of the Methodist Protestant Church, and a Republican in politics.

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## ALBERT HENRY KUNST, M. D.

The responsible position of Vice-President and General Manager of the West Virginia & Pittsburgh Railroad is held by Albert Henry Kunst, who is one of the most substantial and progressive citizens of which Lewis County can boast. He was born in Taylor County, Virginia, and was the youngest of eight children born to G. H. A. and Sarah (Gauer) Kunst, who were born

in Germany and Maryland respectively. The father was born March 12, 1796; was First Lieutenant in a company against Napoleon, the Great, and distinguished himself in the battle of Elba. He afterward, in 1822, came to America as the representative of a Bremen commercial house, locating first in Baltimore, then in Petersburg, Virginia. After his marriage he resided in Virginia and Maryland each for a time, then removed permanently to Taylor County, Virginia (now West Virginia). His mother was a daughter of a French nobleman, who was banished from Alsace-Lorraine, France, on account of his Huguenot proclivities. G. H. A. Kunst worked for a time as bookkeeper and correspondent in a wholesale hardware house at Petersburg, Virginia, was in the mercantile and stock business in Alleghany County, Maryland, and after his removal to Richmond, Virginia, he was in the tobacco warehouse business for a year or two. As this business did not suit his taste he returned to Maryland and resumed his old business. However, in 1844, he came to Pruntytown, the county seat of Taylor County, Virginia (now West Virginia), and from that time until his death, July 9, 1875, except for about one year spent in Wheeling, Virginia, in merchandising, this continued to be his home. He was then in his eightieth year. He was a well-educated and intelligent man of affairs and became well and favorably known throughout this section. Politically, he was first a Whig, but after the war became a Republican. His father, John Conrad Kunst, was an eminent and successful lawyer. G. H. A. Kunst's maternal grandfather was a French nobleman of literary tastes, wrote extensively and published a book, and during the Huguenot troubles in that country was banished from France and thereafter lived in Germany. The maternal grandfather of Dr. Kunst was born in this country and the most of his life was spent on a farm in Maryland. He improved a beautiful place and lived an independent and happy life. He died on his fine estate and left a large family. Albert Henry Kunst was educated in the common schools of Taylor County and in Rector College, after which he was instructed by private tutors. In 1863, he was appointed Deputy Recorder of Taylor County, being the first to hold that office in his county, and as the Recorder was a Captain in the army, he discharged all the duties incident to the Recorder's office. Having a taste for medicine he began studying for that profession, but this was against his father's wish, who desired him to enter business life. He pursued his studies under a preceptor at Pruntytown—Dr. A. S. Warder—entered Starling Medical College, at Columbus, Ohio, and graduated therefrom in March, 1868. He was soon after appointed to the position of as-

sistant physician of the West Virginia Hospital for the Insane at Weston, and so began his professional life here, remaining in this institution over thirteen years. He then entered upon a general practice, and owing to the fact that he was well posted and up with the times in his profession, and possessed the ability to correctly diagnose and treat cases, he was very successful. While in the asylum, doubtless, he laid the foundation for an address delivered by him, entitled "Freaks of the Brain," which was afterward published and gave conclusive evidence of broad culture and literary talent as well as a thorough understanding of mental diseases. He has been quite an extensive contributor to medical journals and has written many pamphlets, one of which, "Puerpural Insanity," was highly commended by the medical profession and is now embodied in one or more text books. He belonged to the various medical societies of the State, was vice-president of the State Society, and was president of the examining board for pensions. He attained far more than average prominence in his profession, was a student and a deep thinker and as a family physician and surgeon commanded a large and lucrative practice. At the time he entered the railroad business he gave up an extensive practice. He was married March 16, 1875, to Miss Mary Mathilda Camden, a native of West Virginia, and a daughter of Colonel John S. Camden, whose son is United States Senator Camden. To the doctor and his wife four children have been given: George Karl, Earle, Irene Marguerite and Johnson Camden. The doctor and his wife are members of the Protestant Episcopal Church. On the 2d of January, 1875, the citizens of Lewis County inaugurated and incorporated what was then known as the Weston & West Fork Railroad, to run from Clarksburg to Weston, and this road was subsequently completed as a narrow gauge and successfully conducted under different names for several years and eventually Dr. Kunst became its president. In 1883, a narrow gauge road was completed from Weston to Buckhannon and the doctor was made superintendent of this line, holding these respective positions until 1888, when he was also elected president of the last-named road. The doctor acquired a minute knowledge of railroad matters, and when the line became a large system this knowledge stood him in good stead. By the practice of strict economy he made it pay, and familiarized himself with every department connected with the short line. For seven or eight years the little line was made to pay its expenses, as every expedient was used to increase its traffic. Eventually the earnings of the road began to increase, and the business of the country demanding it, the narrow gauge system was changed to a broad gauge in 1889,

and now has a mileage of 160 miles. The road made several changes in its name and finally took the name of the West Virginia & Pittsburgh Railroad, with Dr. Kunst as vice-president and general manager. The doctor has passed a very busy and active life, and through his energy and push has done much to improve and build up Lewis County, for which the people owe him a debt of gratitude.

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## HON. ULYSSES GRANT YOUNG.

The tastes and capacities of men are varied and in like proportion are the pursuits of life varied. In no field of human endeavor, however, are there more brainy, versatile or wide-awake men than in the legal profession, and prominent among these is the Hon. Ulysses Grant Young, who is a foremost legal practitioner of Buckhannon. He was born in Harrison County, in 1865, the fourth of eight children born to Joseph Addison and Mary Virginia (Griffith) Young, both of whom were born in Virginia. The paternal grandfather (Robert Young), was also born in the Old Dominion, was married in the eastern part of that State and about 1849 moved to Harrison County, where he engaged in farming and there eventually passed from life. Joseph Addison Young removed to Barbour County, West Virginia, in 1869, and has since then been engaged in milling at Peel Tree. He was left a widower in 1886. The subject of this sketch was first an attendant of the common schools and in 1888 graduated from the law department of a well-known educational institution of Lebanon, Ohio. In the Fall of that year he came to Buckhannon and began practicing his profession, which he has continued with success up to the present. He has been quite active in political matters, has been a delegate to various conventions and in 1894 was elected to the State Senate from the Tenth Senatorial District, which usually gave a Democratic majority of 400 votes, by a majority of 600 votes on the Republican ticket, and was the third youngest member of that body. He served with distinction on the following committees: Judiciary, education, road and navigation; public buildings and humane institutions; militia, forfeited, delinquent and unappropriated lands; public library, and joint committee on enrolled bills, and he introduced four important bills that became laws. He seconded the nomination of Stephen B. Elkins for the United States Senate, the day that he attained his thirtieth birthday. Mr.

Young was married July 11, 1893, to Miss Lily C. Pifer, a native of Buckhannon, and a daughter of Jacob and Cecelia Pifer. They have one daughter, Eugenia. Mr. and Mrs. Young are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is now the efficient Sunday school superintendent. Socially he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. He was one of the organizers and an original stockholder, and is now director of the Traders' National Bank of Buckhannon. He is a leader in the affairs of the county and has ever had the best interests of his section warmly at heart.

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## E. S. SMITH.

This prosperous merchant of Clarksburg, West Virginia, was born in Harrisonburg, Virginia, August 8, 1848. He is the son of Abraham and Elizabeth (Yost) Smith, the former of whom was born in Rockingham County, Virginia, in 1780. He was a soldier of the War of 1812, was married in Virginia twice, his first wife being a Miss Scott. She bore him seven children: Henry, Calvin, Thomas, William, Mary, Martha and Ellen. Calvin and William were soldiers in the Mexican War. Ellen married George Thorp and first moved to Harrison County and then to Missouri. By his second wife Abraham Smith became the father of eight children: Kate, John, Daniel, Edward S., Abraham G. and Isaac. Two children died young. Mr. Smith moved with his family to Harrison County some time before the Civil War (about 1854) and located about twelve miles from Clarksburg, but in 1868 took up his residence in Madison County, Virginia, where he died in 1876, having followed the life of a farmer and merchant. His wife, who was born in Virginia, a daughter of Isaac Yost, died the same year as himself. The father was a pensioner of the War of 1812. His sons, John and Isaac, are living at Peel Tree, Barbour County, the latter being a physician. E. S. Smith spent his early life in this county, and in his native county, in Virginia, and received his education in the common schools. When eighteen years of age he started out in life for himself, first followed stock trading and later engaged in the mercantile business at Clarksburg, where he has a well-appointed establishment and an extensive patronage. He is a Democrat politically, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife was formerly Miss Carrie Shuttleworth, a daughter of Captain John Shut-

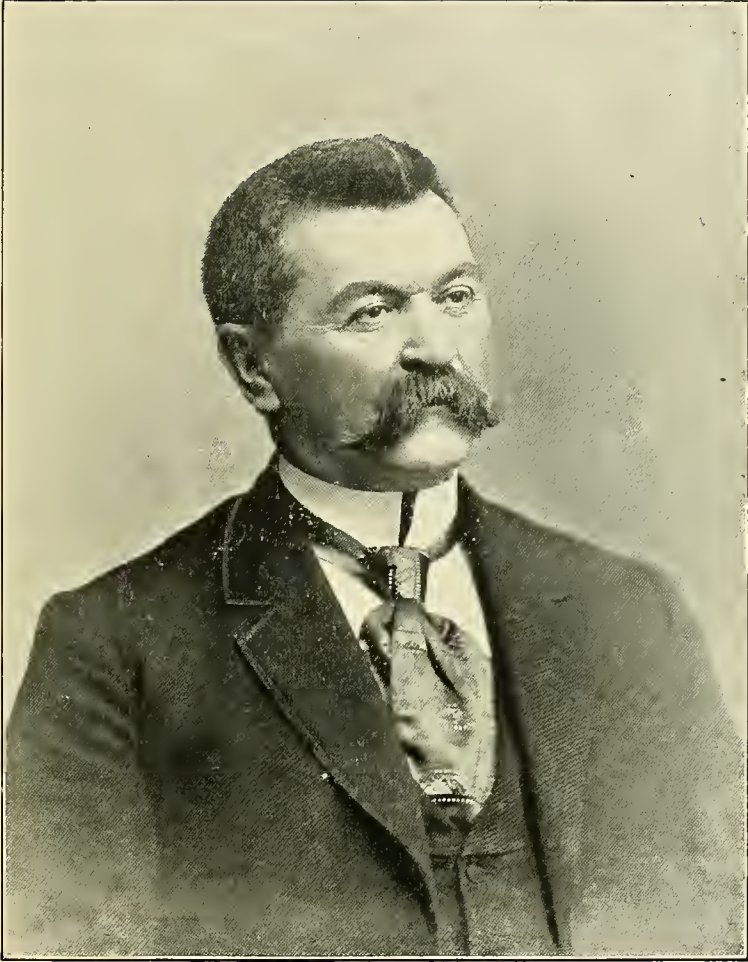
tleworth, of the Union army, formerly of this city, but is now deceased. Mr. Smith and his brothers, John and Daniel, enlisted as soldiers in the Confederate army at the outbreak of the war. They served in the Thirty-first Virginia Infantry, of Early's Brigade, Ewell's Division, "Stonewall" Jackson's Corps. They were present with their regiment in the seven-days battles around Richmond, and many other battles of less note.

After the first sixteen months, Mr. Smith was discharged, being under age; but he again enlisted in the Twentieth Cavalry Regiment of William L. Jackson's Brigade, and served until the close of the war.

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## HON. PETER S. HYDE.

The success of men in business depends upon character as well as upon knowledge, it being a self-evident proposition that honesty is the best policy. Business demands confidence and where that is lacking business ends. Mineral County, West Virginia, has as fine a body of men engaged in mercantile pursuits and industrial enterprises as can be found in the State and very prominent in the number, and one who has the respect and esteem of the whole community, is Hon. Peter S. Hyde, who is a successful jeweler of Piedmont, and has inherited many of his most worthy characteristics from his English ancestors. He is a man of broad and comprehensive views, such as give life to communities and build cities, and he has had the foresight and energy, pluck and push to forward his enterprises, and still retain an untarnished reputation through it all. He is a native son of Virginia, his birth occurring in the Shenandoah Valley, Shenandoah County, April 28, 1836, while his father was a Pennsylvanian, born in the City of Philadelphia, in 1798. The paternal grandfather, Joshua Hyde, was born in England, but during the colonial history of this country, he came thither, settled in Philadelphia, married, engaged in business and there reared his family. During the struggle with the mother country, he fought bravely for liberty in the Colonial army. His son Joseph removed from his native city to Shenandoah County, Virginia, when a young man, and being a watch and clockmaker by trade, he followed that business and also farming. He married Miss Elizabeth Snapp, who was born at Fisher's Hill, Shenandoah County, a daughter of Jacob Snapp, whose father, Laurence Snapp was a



*J. S. Hyde*





very wealthy and prominent man and one of the largest landholders in the Shenandoah Valley. Joseph Hyde reared his family and spent the last years of his life in the Shenandoah Valley, dying in 1876. His widow survived him until 1880, when she, too, was called from life, and both now lie buried in the Snapp family cemetery in Shenandoah County. The family of thirteen children given to them all reached mature years: Margaret (deceased); Lavina, wife of William Wilhelm, resides in Preston County, West Virginia; John is a business man of Buchanan, Virginia; Jacob, who was a minister of the Evangelical Church, of Brandonville, West Virginia, was a soldier of the Federal army, and was Captain of a company. He was taken prisoner in Keyser and conveyed to Richmond, Virginia, where he died a prisoner of war; George became a prominent physician of Piqua, Ohio, and there died in 1891; Joseph is a prominent business man and politician of Harrisburg, Virginia, and has held a number of important official positions; Barbara is the wife of Abram Bly, of Shenandoah County; Elizabeth became the wife of Jacob Jewell, of that county; Wilhelm went West when a young man, and is now dead; Levi was a soldier during the war in Colonel Baker's regiment, and during that troublous time died in Preston County; Benjamin, who settled somewhere in the West; Hiram S. is a successful jeweler of Martinsburg, West Virginia, and a very prominent Mason. The youthful days of Hon. P. S. Hyde were spent in Shenandoah County, and in Frederick and Warren Counties he grew to manhood. While receiving fair common-school advantages, he also learned the jeweler's trade with his father, but in 1862 all personal considerations were cast aside and he offered his services to the Confederate Government, becoming a member of the Twelfth Virginia Cavalry. From the position of a private he was promoted and served as a non-commissioned staff officer under Generals Lomax and Rosser until the war closed, and he was paroled at Appomattox Court House, April 10, 1865. He was on active duty during his entire service with Ashby's Brigade, during which time he made a war record of which he has every reason to be proud, notwithstanding the fact that he was on the losing side. He returned to his old home in Shenandoah County, worked for one year on the farm, and the following year, 1867, came to Piedmont, opened a shop here and embarked in the jewelry business in a small way. The stock was increased from year to year, as his means permitted, until at the present time he has a very fine and valuable supply of watches, clocks, diamonds, silverware, plated ware, etc., in fact, everything kept in a first-class jewelry establishment, and is doing an immense annual business. He has wide

business interests and has been a stockholder and director of the First National Bank of Piedmont ever since its organization, and was one of the organizers of the Terra Alta Bank, of which he is president. The career of Mr. Hyde in the political arena has been one of the utmost credit to him, and in local politics he has always shown great interest. He has served as a member of the Town Council for a number of years, as Mayor of Piedmont two terms and as president of the Board of Education for years, for he has always been deeply interested in the cause of education. Nor did his political honors end here, for in 1894 he was elected to the State Senate by the Democratic party and served on a number of important committees, among which was that of mining and banking. He is a personal friend of Hon. William L. Wilson, with whom he served in the Confederate army, and often entertains the latter at his comfortable and pretty home in Piedmont. In 1867, in Middleton, Virginia, Mr. Hyde was united in marriage with Miss Freddie Allen, a native of Frederick County, Virginia, and a daughter of George W. Allen, one of the foremost business men of Middleton, Virginia, now a resident of Piedmont. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hyde nine children have been given. Five died while young; those living are: Nellie, George, Stanley and Encie C. Mrs. Hyde and her daughters are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Hyde is in every way deserving the confidence that is bestowed upon him and he and his worthy wife are gladly welcomed in the best social circles of the section in which they reside.

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## DR. HENRY WIMER.

The town in which this successful physician now resides was his birthplace, for here he first saw the light of day in 1864, being the youngest child born to Jacob and Martha Ann (Thornhill) Wimer, natives respectively of Lewis and Harrison Counties, Virginia. The paternal grandfather, Jacob Wimer, was born in either Pendleton or Highland Counties, Virginia, but at an early day he moved to Lewis County and there tilled the soil the remainder of his life. The maternal grandfather, Thomas Thornhill, was born in Harrison County, Virginia, but his father was a native of England and was one of the early settlers of the Old Dominion. Jacob Wimer, the father of the doctor, was first engaged in tilling the soil, but he afterward engaged in busi-

ness in Janelew, although he is at present residing on a farm in this county. He is now living with his second wife, his first wife, the mother of the subject of this sketch, having died in 1865. The common schools of this county afforded the subject of this sketch his literary training until he had attained his majority, and during this time having acquired a thoroughly practical education, he began teaching school and continued this occupation for several years. After attending the State Normal School for some time, he entered the Ohio Wesleyan University, where he pursued a higher and more thorough course of training. In 1891, he decided to make medicine his life work, and entered energetically upon his studies in the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, Ohio, and was graduated from this well-known institution in June, 1894, after having attended three sessions. He at once entered upon the practice of his profession at Janelew, July 20, 1894, and although his professional career has been but short, he has already shown the metal of which he is made, has a good and increasing practice, and gives every promise of rising to eminence in his profession.

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## COLONEL GEORGE ROBERT LATHAM.

There is not a more prominent man in Upshur County, West Virginia, to-day than Colonel George Robert Latham, and a brief sketch of his career will be of great interest to many throughout this section. He was born in Prince William County, Virginia, March 9, 1832, the third in a family of nine children born to John and Juliette Ann (Newman) Latham, who were born in the Old Dominion, as was also the paternal grandfather, Robert Latham, who was a minister of the Baptist Church in Prince William and Fauquier Counties, Virginia. The Lathams came to this country during Colonial times and are of English lineage as are also the Newmans. The maternal grandfather was George Newman. John Latham attained maturity in Virginia, was engaged in teaching school for some time, then turned his attention to farming, and for a number of years served in the capacity of County Surveyor. In November, 1849, he moved with his family to Western Virginia, and settled on a farm in Taylor County, where he and his wife both eventually passed from life. They were worthy members of the Baptist Church, and although a staunch Democrat politically, he was by no

means an office-seeker. When a youth, George R. Latham received the advantages of the common schools, which were conducted in the vicinity of his Virginia home; and, being of studious habits and possessing a good memory, he made fair progress in his studies, notwithstanding the fact that he attended only the Winter terms. In 1850, he was taken with a severe attack of pleurisy, which left him in bad health for several years, though in 1852, as his health had somewhat improved, he took a country school in Taylor County, whither he had accompanied his parents when about seventeen years of age. While pursuing this occupation he gave much of his attention to the study of law, and the last week of 1859 he passed the necessary examination and was admitted to the bar. He opened the first law office in Grafton and was practicing his profession when the unsettled condition of the Nation's affairs caused him to close his office and engage in the struggle between the North and South. When Company B, of the Second Virginia Infantry was organized in May, 1861, he became its Captain, and was immediately sent into active service and participated in the first engagements of the war. In June, 1861, he with his company was ordered to Grafton, where he met General McClellan, and being familiar with the location, distances, etc., assisted him in preparing his Western Virginia campaign. The company was then assigned to General Morris' command at Philippi and took part in the engagement at Carrick's Ford. After he was promoted to the command of his regiment, he led it in many serious and bloody battles. Toward the close of his service, Secretary of War Stanton made Colonel Latham Brevet Brigadier-General, after a thorough investigation of his record, of which honor he has every reason to be proud. Colonel Latham had the confidence and love of the entire regiment and his men admired his courage, trusted his honesty, relied on his ability and intense devotion to his country, and he never disappointed them. He never failed in any emergency and his men unhesitatingly followed his lead wherever his duty called him. His regiment was the first organized for the three years' service and was mustered out in 1865, after which the Colonel returned to his home. He was elected a member of the Thirty-ninth Congress from the Second District of West Virginia, and served from March 4, 1865, to March 4, 1867. This body was in session during the exciting reconstruction period and the impeachment of President Johnson. Colonel Latham, though an ardent Republican, did not approve of some of the measures and doctrines advocated by a majority of the party. While favoring the amendments which were offered to the Constitution, in order to harmonize it with the altered condition

of things, he would not agree that the reconstruction of the Government was necessary in order to restore the States to their proper place in the Union, or to guarantee future loyalty. He served on some very important committees and distinguished himself in this responsible public office. On account of the failure of his health, he declined to be a candidate for renomination, but shortly before the adjournment, at the request of the Secretary of State, he agreed to accept an appointment as United States Consul at Melbourne, Australia. For this position he was nominated by President Johnson, promptly confirmed by the Senate, and on the 10th left for his post of duty, sailing from Boston, April 20, 1867. While in Melbourne he detected a whisky fraud upon the revenue of the United States, which was compromised by the payment of \$75,000 into the United States Treasury. He also collected from the Fiji Islands an indemnity claim of long standing, amounting to \$45,000. When about to leave Melbourne, so great was his popularity that he was feted, banqueted and presented with addresses, such as no other consul to that place had ever been. Since 1870 he has been practically retired from public life, but the good which he accomplished in the earlier years of his usefulness will live long after his body has mouldered to dust. He was married on the 24th of December, 1857, to Miss Caroline A. Thayer, a native of Virginia, and of New England ancestry. To them nine children were born: Charles O., Mary Bell, who died in infancy; Juliette A., Annie V., wife of L. W. Bartlett; Amanda Lee, John F., Elizabeth V., George Robert, Jr., and William Thayer. Colonel Latham has long been a member of the Baptist Church, is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and socially is connected with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

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## JOHN S. MURDOCK.

Among the names of the prominent business men of Kingwood who have been closely associated with its interests, and have assisted in its marvelous growth, and who, while helping to advance the interests of the community, have founded for themselves reputations more enduring than iron or stone, stands that of the venerable and venerated citizen, John S. Murdock, one who, by force of native ability and steady perseverance, has raised himself to a position of wealth and honor. His life-history illustrates in a marked

degree what may be accomplished by well-directed efforts and a strict adherence to correct business principles. He is numbered among the honored first settlers of Preston County, West Virginia, and is well known throughout Northern West Virginia. He came originally from Pennsylvania, his birth occurring in Uniontown, that State, January 16, 1810, and is a son of Thomas Murdock, who was born in the land of the Shamrock. The father came to America previous to the War of 1812, and located in Morgantown, West Virginia, when that section was sparsely settled. During the War of 1812 he enlisted and was killed at Long Island, New York, and also buried there on the field of battle. Soon after settling in Morgantown, Mr. Murdock was married to Miss Mary Gooseman, a native of West Virginia, and began the manufacture of iron and nails, which were the first nails made in the county and headed by hand, and after his death she carried on the business of general millinery and reared her children to be honorable men and women. There her death occurred. The children, five in number, all grew to mature years, and two sons and one daughter are now living. The eldest of the family, David, died when a young man; Elizabeth married a man named Van Sweringen and they reared a large family. Both died in Indiana in 1890: Jane was the wife of David Vance, and she and her husband are now deceased; John S., our subject, came next in order of birth; Thomas resides in Wichita, Kan.; Godfrey married and now resides in Kansas, and Susan, wife of William Lanham, resides in Catlettsburg, Kentucky. John S. Murdock, with the family came to this State when but five years of age and grew to manhood in Morgantown. He received but limited educational advantages during his youth, and is almost wholly self-educated. Learning the blacksmith trade he settled at Kingwood and began following the same, carrying it on for forty long years. He took the contract and built the jail of Barbour County, burned the brick for the court house of that county, built three school houses and many other public buildings. Politically he is a staunch advocate of Democratic principles and his first vote was cast for General Jackson. Mr. Murdock has held a number of local positions: Justice of the Peace for about forty years, also Judge of the County Court for eight years, settling many important cases, all of which were sustained by the Superior Court. He served as Commissioner of the Schools of Kingwood and made a most efficient and faithful officer. Mr. Murdock is one of the representative men of this section and Kingwood owes much to him for her advancement and progress. He has been twice married, first in 1830 to Miss Rebecca Minor, a native of Preston County, who died in 1852. Eleven

children were born to this union, viz.: Thomas D., William B., Israel B., Marsellis H., Godfrey G., Susan F., James E., Elisha H., Mary A., Virginia E. and Charles E., ten of whom reached mature years. Five of the sons were soldiers in the Civil War. Mr. Murdock was married the second time, December 27, 1857, to a widow, Mrs. Trippett, a native of Monongalia County, West Virginia. Two children were given them: John C., who is married, resides in Ironton, Ohio, Lawrence County, where he is a successful business man, and Frank, who is at home and bookkeeper in the Bank of Kingwood. Mrs. Murdock was the mother of two sons and one daughter by her previous marriage; Josephine, who married Thomas M. Clayton, who is dispatch agent of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad; Dr. Fenton Trippett, who practiced medicine in Monongahela County, and Dr. R. B. L. Trippett, who practiced medicine in Kingwood, West Virginia. Both sons are now deceased. Of late years Mr. Murdock has been dealing in real estate. On the organization of the Kingwood Bank he became a stockholder and was elected one of the directors of the same, which position he has held for twenty years. Since the age of twenty-three years Mr. Murdock has been an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and his wife is also a member of that church. He has resided in West Virginia for seventy-five years and Preston County sixty-seven years. This worthy citizen is a man of sterling character and his dignified and courteous manner as well as his kindness of heart has endeared him to all, and at this date he is the oldest man in the community.

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## DR. J. J. MORGAN.

The onerous duties of County Clerk of Upshur County, West Virginia, could not have been placed in more efficient, trustworthy and willing hands than in those of Dr. J. J. Morgan, who has been retired from medical practice since he entered upon his official duties. He was born in Marion County, Virginia, in 1840, the eldest child born to Stephen and Saloma (Van Gilder) Morgan, also native Virginians, of which State the paternal grandfather, James Morgan, was also a native. During the War of 1812-14 he was Captain of a company of volunteers and was in command at Fort Meigs (now Toledo, Ohio). In the early part of the present century he settled in Marion County, Virginia, where the remainder of his life was spent, his death occurring at the age of eighty-three years. He was of Irish descent and the

Morgan family tree first took root on American soil during the Colonial history of this country. The maternal grandparents of the subject of this sketch, Frederick and Susanna (Longstreth) Van Gilder, were pioneers of Greene County, Pennsylvania, but after a time settled in Western Virginia, and his maternal great-grandfather was one of the brave soldiers of the Revolution. In 1865, Stephen Morgan came to Upshur County, West Virginia, and here enlisted in Company A, Sixth West Virginia Volunteer Infantry, and saw service in the western part of this State, where he continued to make his home until death closed his career in 1893, his widow having died eight years previously. Dr. J. J. Morgan was reared in Marion County, Virginia, and there received his initiatory training in the country schools, which was afterward supplemented by a course at Fairmont, under Prof. White. He had just commenced the study of medicine when the war opened and his interest in the progress of events so engrossed his attention that his books were cast aside in August, and on the 6th of that month, 1861, he became a member of Company A, Sixth Virginia Volunteer Infantry, the same command in which his father saw some active service. After serving in the field one year he was placed on detached duty in a hospital, where he continued for two years, during which time he pursued his medical studies in addition to his duties. From that time until the close of the war he was again in active service. In 1865, he entered the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and the following year located for the practice of his profession at French Creek in Upshur County, West Virginia, where he was actively engaged in the practice of his profession until 1883. At that time his prominence in public affairs led to his election to the State Legislature and while a member of that honorable body, he served on several important committees, and made an able and trustworthy official. In the fall of 1884 he was elected Sheriff of Upshur County for a term of four years, and at the next general election he was elected to his present office of County Clerk for six years. He has ever labored for the best interests of his section, has discharged his public duties faithfully and conscientiously and in a manner which has reflected the greatest credit upon his mental ability, and that his efforts have been appreciated is clearly shown by his repeated terms in office. He is of a genial, social disposition and in his public life has made many acquaintances, all of whom are his friends. He has been a frequent delegate to county and State conventions. He was one of the organizers of the Grand Army Post at Buckhannon, and has served in the State Department for several terms. He was married November 2, 1867, to Miss Mary



E. Shobe, a native of Batch County, Virginia, and daughter of John Shobe, who became a resident of Upshur County, West Virginia, in the 50's. To their union seven children have been given: Minnie, Atlee, Leroy, Ivah, Mazie, Morton and John, who was the eldest of the family and died at the age of eleven months. The doctor and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and socially he is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. They reside in Buckhannon.

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## CAPTAIN JAMES ANDERSON.

A most necessary and useful occupation is that in which the subject of this sketch is engaged—the coal business—in Keyser, West Virginia. He was born in Frederick County, Maryland, December 13, 1824, in which section his father, Captain Richard Anderson, was also born. The latter was married in the State of his birth to Miss Susan Riggs, of Frederick County, and from that time until his death he followed the occupation of carpenter and joiner and also cared for a farm, in the county that gave him birth. He served as Captain of a militia company, and was a well known and useful citizen of that section. Captain James Anderson spent his youth on the home farm in Frederick County, but unfortunately his early life was devoid, to a great extent, of educational opportunities, but his knowledge of the world of books was increased in later years by extensive reading and self-application. After arriving at mature years he was engaged as overseer on a farm in Maryland for several years, after which he accepted the position of freight conductor on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, running from that city to Sandy Hook and later from Baltimore to Cumberland, and after eighteen months of this work became fireman on an engine. At the end of eighteen months he was made engineer and up to 1852 ran an engine. In that year he located in Piedmont and was engineer of a passenger train from Piedmont to Newburg for some years, but at the end of that time he quit the road and was appointed supervisor of machinery, also supervisor of trains on the Third Division. During these years Captain Anderson was also engaged as superintendent in the lumber business in Garrett County, Maryland, where he had three mills and was extensively engaged in the manufacture, shipping and exporting of lumber. He had some fifteen miles of tram-road and carried on a business of great magnitude. In 1889, the Captain resigned his position

with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and in October of that year moved to Keyser, where he engaged in the coal business in 1891. In this business he has prospered and is to-day one of the active, enterprising and substantial business men of Keyser and Mineral County. Politically, Captain Anderson is identified with the Democratic party, and although he has at all times supported the men and measures of that party he has never sought nor held public office, but has given his time to his extensive business interests. Captain Anderson was united in marriage in Martinsburg, West Virginia, in 1851, to Miss Emily Susan Gregory, who was born, reared and educated in that town, and a daughter of Captain Robert Gregory, who was an officer in the War of 1812, and a prominent business man of Martinsburg. He is now deceased. Captain Anderson is well known throughout Northern West Virginia, is well known for his admirable business capacity, for his upright character, his exemplary habits and for his kindness to those less fortunately situated than himself. He is universally esteemed and respected and has many friends. His wife is an active member of the Presbyterian Church, and both are favorites in the social circle in which they move.

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## D. C. FEATHER.

Of those whose active lives are co-equal with Preston County, West Virginia, and whose triumphs are interwoven with her history, is D. C. Feather, a gentleman who is now living a retired life on account of disabilities received during the late war. He was born in Preston County, West Virginia, February 12, 1842, to the union of Zaccheus and Elizabeth (Ervin) Feather, both natives of Preston County. His grandfather, Jacob Feather, was one of the original settlers of Preston County, in the eastern part of which he opened up a farm, and reared his family of seven sons and three daughters. After his marriage, Mr. Feather branched out as an agriculturist, and followed this calling all his life, dying March 1, 1891, when eighty years of age. His widow is still living, and resides on the old homestead. The maternal grandfather, Isaac Irvin, was another of the honored first settlers of Preston County. D. C. Feather is one of a family of five sons and seven daughters, all of whom grew to mature years on their father's farm in this county, and became the heads of families. D. C. Feather passed his boyhood in Preston County, and received his education in the common

schools. On the 15th of August, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, Fourteenth West Virginia Volunteer Infantry, to fight for the old flag, and served until discharged. He participated in the battle of Cloyd Mountain, May 9, 1864, was wounded in the right hip and permanently disabled. While thus wounded, he was taken prisoner, and was held five months. He was first taken to Emery and Henry College Hospital, where he was kept until about the 1st of October, then he was taken to Richmond, where he remained a short time, then was exchanged and sent to Annapolis, Maryland, where he received his discharge April 11, 1865. On returning home, his wound kept him for some time from engaging in active employment.

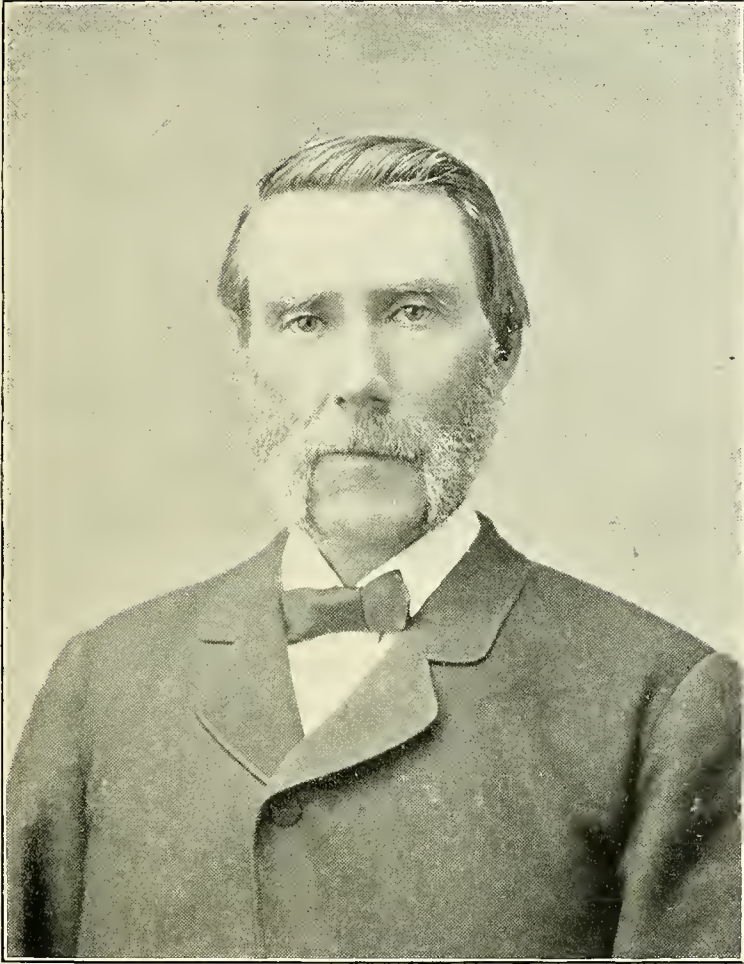
On the 25th of April, 1869, he was married in Hocking County, Ohio, to Miss Deborah Ann Chidester, a native of West Virginia, who was reared and educated in Preston County. Her father, Harrison Chidester, was also born in Preston County, and was a pioneer family of the same. Mr. and Mrs. Feather had one daughter, Amy Luella, who died when about eleven years of age, April 9, 1881. After marriage Mr. Feather was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Hocking County for about eighteen months, after which he returned to his native county and bought a place about ten miles north of Terra Alta, where he was actively and successfully engaged in farming until 1894, when he bought residence property and located in Terra Alta. In his social relations he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias Lodge, the Knights of the Golden Eagle, of which he is Past Chief, and also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic Post. Mr. and Mrs. Feather are active members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and the former is a Republican in politics. Every laudable enterprise receives his attention, particularly education, and he was a member of the board of the same for some time. He is a man of sterling character and is well worthy the respect in which he is held.

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## HON. URIAH NEWTON ORR.

Throughout the life of this gentleman he has turned his powers in the channel of honorable pursuit, and has accomplished the object of his endeavor—to deservedly attain prominence and honor. He has made the best use of his native and acquired powers, has developed in himself a true man-

hood, and in the walks of public life he has served his country with zealous fidelity and expects to pass his declining days with those among whom he has grown gray in honorable usefulness. He comes of Revolutionary stock, for his paternal grandfather, John Dale Orr, was born in Baltimore County, Maryland, in 1765 and when a mere lad enlisted as a soldier in the Colonial army and was present at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, being then but sixteen years of age. Soon after this his father removed with his family to Fayette County, Pennsylvania. In 1782, he served in General William Crawford's campaign against the Indians, and was severely wounded. In 1798 he came to Preston County, West Virginia, and settled on a wild tract of one and one-half miles north of where Independence now stands, where he opened up a farm, reared his family and died in 1840. His son Hiram grew up on the home farm, on which he was born in 1804, and upon attaining man's estate he was united in marriage with Miss Keziah Minear, also a native of this county. Following in his worthy sire's footsteps, Mr. Orr continued a farmer throughout life, and his death occurred on the old Orr homestead April 24, 1855, when in the prime of life. His wife died in March, 1846. Major Uriah N. Orr, who was born on the old home farm in Preston County, April 24, 1832, was the eldest of a family of five sons and two daughters, the names of the other members of the family being as follows: Eugene, who was a farmer and died in 1870; Martha J., wife of A. B. Minear, died in Kingwood in 1864; Morgan D. is the superintendent of the Oral Coal Mines of Fairmont, West Virginia; Miles H. is engaged in farming in the vicinity of Mason Town, West Virginia; Keziah is the wife of S. M. Martin and lives near Gladesville, West Virginia, and Weightman L. resides in the City of Baltimore, Maryland, and is a lumber merchant. During his boyhood days Major U. N. Orr received quite limited educational advantages and the most of his education has been self-acquired. At the age of twenty-two years he was elected Major of the Seventy-third Regiment of Virginia Militia, and two years later he was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel. This training admirably fitted him for service in the Civil War and in August, 1861, he joined Company I, Sixth Regiment West Virginia Infantry, and in 1862 was promoted to First Duty Sergeant. He participated in a number of sharp skirmishes such as Morefield, Bulltown, South Branch, etc., and at the expiration of his term of service, November, 1864, he was honorably discharged and returned home. In 1860 he was married in Preston County to Miss Annie A. Talbott, who died in April, 1864, while the Major was in the army. Upon his return home he began operating a mill, which he had pur-



*U. V. Orr*



chased before his return from the army, and up to 1891 he was extensively and successfully engaged in the manufacture of lumber near Newburg. However, in 1889, he moved to Kingwood, put up a tannery here in 1892 and has since operated the same successfully. In addition to his other enterprises he erected a large four-story flouring mill, put in the roller process and other modern appliances, and is doing a large custom work. This mill has a capacity of fifty barrels per day, and was the first to be erected and is the only flouring mill in Kingwood. It can thus be seen that Major Orr's life has been an active, progressive and useful one and the result is that he has accumulated ample means. Besides the above properties he owns an interest in 2,500 acres of coal lands in Preston County and also in the West End Coke Company. Since 1865, in addition to his manufacturing enterprises and his tannery, he has also been engaged in farming and at the present time owns five farms in Preston County, which he rents out. He cast his first Presidential vote for Millard Fillmore in 1856, and since that time has been a staunch Republican and of late years has been quite active in political life. He has been quite active in local politics and the interest he always manifested in the public schools led to his election to the Board of Education in 1876, of which honorable body he became president in 1878, and in that capacity served for eight years. In 1881, he was elected to the Lower House of the State Legislature, was re-elected in 1883, and in 1889 was again re-elected, making, in all, three terms in which he served in the Legislative body of his State. During this time he was on a number of important committees, was faithful to the interests of his party and section and proved himself to be an able and incorruptible legislator. On the death of his first wife he was left with two small sons: Robert A. and Malcolm J., both of whom are substantial citizens of this section. The former assists in carrying on the mill while the latter is married and is engaged in farming near Newburg, West Virginia. In 1866, Major Orr was married in Preston County to Miss Mollie J. Squires, a native of this county, reared and educated here and a daughter of Samuel D. Squires, who enlisted in the Union army and gave his life for his country, his death occurring in Andersonville Prison. To Major and Mrs. Orr the following children have been given: Mattie J., wife of G. W. Robertson, resides at Kingwood; Agnes A., wife of John B. Ford, lives at Beard, West Virginia; James M. is taking a collegiate course in the University of West Virginia; Grace is completing the High School course in Kingwood; Edward, Clarence and Carrie are attending the home school, and Nellie and Uriah N., Jr., constitute the family. Mr. Orr is a member of the

Knights of Pythias and the Knights of Honor, and although he attends the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which his wife is a member, he inclines to the Baptist faith, in which he was reared. He, however, contributes liberally of his means to the support of all the churches of Kingwood (as well as to various benevolent institutions and enterprises. He is well known throughout the northwestern part of the State, and he and his most estimable wife have a wide circle of friends.

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## WILLIAM H. FRAZIER.

He whose name heads this sketch is a public-spirited citizen, in harmony with advanced ideas, intelligent progress and the best methods of promoting education, morality and the good of his country generally. He owes his nativity to Frederick County, Maryland, where he was born January 19, 1838, to William and Margaret A. (McMakin) Frazier, natives of Maryland and Loudoun County, Virginia, respectively, their marriage occurring in the mother's native county. In early manhood William Frazier was engaged in railroading, but later he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and about 1852 settled on a farm in the vicinity of Evansville, Preston County, but the following year took up his residence in Newburg, where the remainder of his life was spent. His wife survived him but a few months. William H. Frazier is the second in order of birth of a family of six children, the other members of the family being: John T., an engineer on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, who was killed by the explosion of his engine; Sarah Lois, wife of John Dunphrey, of Newburg; J. M. L., who is an engineer on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and lives in Cumberland, Maryland; Thomas Clinton, who was also an engineer, was accidentally killed by the discharge of his gun while out hunting, and Charles T., who is also an engineer on the Baltimore & Ohio road, is married and is a resident of Newburg. Such advantages as the common schools afforded were given to William H. Frazier, while he was growing up, and in early manhood he began working in railroad machine shops, continuing about five years. He then went on the railroad as fireman, continuing from June, 1860, to March 10, 1865, when he was promoted and given an engine, and for three years ran an engine from Piedmont to Grafton, his route afterward being extended as far as Newburg. He



has been on the road for thirty-five years and has been in the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad for forty years, during which time he has won the unbounded confidence of the railroad officials, who place a high value on his services and consider him at all times a man to be trusted and one who thoroughly understands his business. He has been in a number of railroad accidents, but escaped uninjured, with the exception of one time, when he lost three fingers from his right hand. On the 17th of October, 1860, Mr. Frazier was married in Alleghany County, Maryland, to Miss Mary Kent, a native of that State, where she was also reared and educated. She has borne her husband six children: Ida L., wife of Dr. F. M. Dent, a prosperous druggist of Newburg; George N., an upright and intelligent young business man of this place; I —, wife of E. W. Zinn, of Wheeling; Anna G., William V., who is attending a business college of Chicago, Ill., holds a responsible position in the trainmaster's office in Grafton, and Orville C., who is attending a Wheeling business college. Mr. Frazier is a Republican politically, cast his first Presidential vote for John Bell in 1860 and for every nominee of the Republican party since that time. Although he has served as a member of the Town Council, he has never been what may be termed an official aspirant. Socially he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Honor of Grafton, and he and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with the exception of one daughter, who has connected herself with the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Frazier has identified himself with the people and business interests of the county and especially of Newburg, and he has many friends among all classes, being especially popular in railroad circles.

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## JAMES MORROW, JR.

Few citizens of the State have made more impress upon the community in which Providence placed them than the subject of this brief sketch. He was born in Brooke County, Virginia, May 26, 1837. His boyhood was passed upon his father's farm, and in the neighborhood schools. Ohio and Pennsylvania both contributed to the classic education of later years, and he studied law as opportunity occurred for several years, and in 1862 was admitted to the bar of Illinois. In 1865 he began practice in Fairmont, West Virginia. Marion County electors chose him to represent their interests in

the Legislature in 1871, and again in 1881. In the House he was popular and influential in shaping the legislation of those years, serving on the important Committee of the Judiciary. He was one of the Special Court in the contest case of Harrison against Lewis for Judge of the Second Circuit, and voiced the opinion of a majority of the Court and was counsel for Auditor Bennett and Treasurer Burdett in their attempted impeachment before the West Virginia Senate in 1875-6. Urbane in manners, strict in integrity, Democratic, but conservative, in politics, and properly ambitious for exalted responsibilities, however difficult or laborious, yet modest in urging his own preferment, he was peculiarly sensitive of unfair criticism and neglect. At the State Convention of his party at Huntington, in 1888, he was a formidable candidate for the gubernatorial nomination. He held many appointments from the Governor upon State Boards, and was elected to numerous county positions of trust.

After severe mental affliction, November 19, 1888, he passed away into the Great Beyond.

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## JOHN W. BROWN.

This successful and active business man and manufacturer of Tunnelton, West Virginia, has been a resident of this place since 1867, and during that time he has won the confidence and respect of all by his uprightness and integrity. Mr. Brown is a native of old England, and was born in Hardstoft, Derbyshire, February 11, 1817. He grew to manhood there and learned the machinist trade in the same place, serving an apprenticeship of six years. He had good educational advantages and after finishing his trade opened a shop at South Normanton, Derbyshire, which he conducted for two or three years. On the 13th of December, 1849, he took passage from Liverpool to New York, and after one month of severe weather on the Atlantic reached the American shore. After trying in vain to obtain work in the Empire City, he went to Philadelphia, thence to Baltimore, where he secured work for a short time. From there he went to Frederick, Maryland, and got employment in a shop belonging to Samuel Brown for five months. After this he went to Mount Savage Iron Works, Maryland, and had steady employment in the same for sixteen years. He first worked in the machine shop about one year, then was put into the rolling mill to turn rolls and as

general machinist, and afterward became manager of the rolling mill and foundry for the last two years. While in that capacity he was sent out on a tour of inspection through the rolling mills of Maryland, Pennsylvania and Ohio, to note all improvements in the manufacture of iron and rolling mill machinery. Some time before leaving Mount Savage he, with others, bought a farm south of Tunnelton, Preston County, West Virginia, to which he removed. In 1867 he built his first machine shops and foundry, and since that time has been actively engaged in building and repairing engines, mill work and general machinery. He has a completely fitted up machine shop and does much work for the Tunnelton, Kingwood & Fairchance road. Mr. Brown was married in England, but came to this country by himself, his family following in about a year. Seven children have blessed this union, four of whom were born in England: The eldest, John W., Jr., who was a practical machinist, built the engine that runs the machinery in the shop before he was twenty years of age, and died in his twenty-fifth year; Herbert is in Tucson, Arizona, and is publisher of the Arizona Daily and Weekly Citizen; Annie, the widow of Philip Heermans; Elizabeth, wife of Ashbel F. Gibson, a merchant of Tunnelton; Alfred is a molder in the foundry; George J., a practical machinist, works in the shops of his father, and Hannah H., a young lady at home.

In his political views, Mr. Brown is a staunch Republican, and supports the men and measures of that party. He has never cared for office, but prefers to give his whole attention to business. He had the misfortune to lose his wife in December, 1864.

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## CAPTAIN J. M. GODWIN.

There are few better known men in Preston County than Captain J. M. Godwin, who is a native of this State, born April 20, 1827, and who received the rudiments of an education in Preston County, where most of his life has been spent. His father, Robert Godwin, was born on the Atlantic Ocean in 1792 and of Irish parents. Upon coming to this country the family first located in Maryland, near Cumberland, but later settled in West Virginia, where Robert reached mature years. He served in the War of 1812, under General W. H. Harrison, and afterward located in Preston

County, West Virginia, near Valley Point, where he was engaged in tilling the soil for many years. When getting along in years he moved to Barbour County and there died about 1876. His wife survived him about one year. Our subject was about nine years old when he moved with his parents to Barbour County, and he received a fair common-school education. After growing up he began clerking in the mercantile house of L. A. Haynes & Co., Kingwood, and was thus employed for about three years. After that he was with Hon. James C. McGrew and Hall, of Rowlesburgh, until the breaking out of the Civil War. On the 14th of November, 1861, he enlisted in Company O, Sixth Virginia Infantry, was mustered in as Captain of the same, and commanded the company until discharged in December 19, 1864, at Wheeling, West Virginia. He then returned to Kingwood, engaged in merchandising and continued this for a number of years, or up to 1876, when he sold out. Later he was appointed postmaster at Kingwood and held that position until December, 1885, a period of seven years. Captain Godwin is identified with the Republican party, has ever taken a decided interest in local politics, and has held a number of local positions of trust and responsibility. He was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace at Rowlesburgh, but after two years resigned, and the following August, after retiring to Kingwood, was elected president of the County Court, serving four years in that capacity. For the past twenty years he has held the position of Justice of the Peace and was appointed notary in 1885. He is also Commissioner of Accounts of Preston County, and United States pension attorney. In the year 1849, the Captain was married to Miss Elizabeth Royse, a native of Preston County, and a daughter of Hiram Royse. Mrs. Godwin died in 1858, leaving one son, Edward A. Godwin, who is now a resident of South Dakota, and is Captain of Company D, Eighth United States Cavalry, and is stationed at Fort Mead, South Dakota. Captain Godwin's second marriage occurred in 1858 to Miss Sarah Stone, a native of Preston County, whose father, C. V. Stone, was one of the first settlers of the county. Four children were the result of this union: Alice, wife of Neal J. Fortney, of Kingwood; Kate, wife of Judge Joseph H. Hawthorn, now City Judge of Kansas City, Missouri; Mary Cornelia, at home, and Nellie, also at home. Captain Godwin lost one son by his first marriage, Charles W. Godwin, who died in 1890. Our subject is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic Post, of which he is Past Commander, and is also a member of the Masonic fraternity and Knights Templars, and Knights of Pythias. He served as master of the Blue Lodge a number of terms and also as Past Chancellor of the latter lodge. Mrs.

Godwin is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the entire family is one of the best in the county. The Captain has been a resident of West Virginia and Preston County almost his entire life, and is well and favorably known in this section as he is all over the State.

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## WILLIAM LOUDIN.

In adjusting the petty difficulties in which his neighbors become involved William Loudin has shown excellent judgment, great impartiality and a knowledge of the law, which has made him one of the most popular Justices of the Peace of his section. He was born in what is now Upshur County, in 1826, the sixth of eight children born to Thomas and Hannah (Connelly) Loudin, natives respectively of Harrison County, Virginia, and Ireland, the latter of whom was brought to the United States when four years old. The paternal grandfather, John Loudin, was born in England, but was a resident of the North of Ireland for some time, and came to America just prior to the Revolution. He settled in Virginia and at the outbreak of the war at once joined the Colonial army, and while in the service was captured by the British, but as he was acquainted with some of the British officers he was paroled. He was one of the first settlers of Harrison County and was here called from life. One of his sons, William Loudin, was a soldier in the War of 1812. The maternal grandfather, Jeremiah Connelly, came to the United States about 1791 or '92, and also settled in Harrison County, Virginia, where he died. Thomas Loudin was reared in Harrison County and about 1814 moved to what is now Upshur County, where he resided the remainder of his life, dying in 1871. The mother was called from this life in 1862.

The subject of this sketch has spent his life in Upshur County, and her common schools have afforded him his educational advantages. He was reared on his father's farm, became familiar with the details of agriculture and upon starting out in life for himself it was as a tiller of the soil. He was Deputy Sheriff of this county from 1851 to 1857 under Sheriffs Colonel John Regor and Hopkins, and after the expiration of his term he again resumed farming and is now the owner of a valuable tract of land. From November, 1881, to 1889, he served as Justice of the Peace and from 1893

up to the present time. In 1856 he was married to Miss L. L. Anderson, a native of Albemarle County, Virginia, and daughter of William L. Anderson, who moved to this part of the State of West Virginia, in 1847. Mr. Loudin is a Mason, a Democrat in politics, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. He is a man of excellent reputation and sound principles, and stands high in the estimation of all who know him.

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## EDGAR H. PARSONS, M. D.

It is no more than just in a work of this kind, that such an important profession as that of medicine should be noticed, for upon the successful practice of the same we are all more or less dependent. The duty of the medical practitioner is to relieve the pains and ailments to which suffering humanity is heir, and in the faithful discharge of that duty he deserves the grateful consideration of all right-thinking people. Dr. Parsons is one of the leading physicians of Mineral County, and has been in the active practice of his profession in and about West Virginia for the last thirty years. He was born in Tucker County, West Virginia, January 29, 1838. He received fair common school advantages in his youth. When about the age of eighteen years, he entered Allegheny College, but was not able to remain long enough to complete the full course. When about twenty-one years old he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. A. Howard Scott, of Morefield. In 1861, he enlisted in the Confederate service, as a member of the Twenty-fifth Virginia Infantry, and was in the field up to February, 1863, when he was transferred to hospital duty, where he had the privilege of pursuing his medical studies, graduating from the Medical College of Virginia, at Richmond, Virginia, with the class of 1865. In the latter part of the same year he located in Frankfort, where he remained about three years, then removed to Bloomington, Maryland, where he was the attending physician to the Hampshire and Virginia Coal Mines. Early in 1883, the doctor located in Piedmont, West Virginia, where he is still engaged in active practice, having built up a large and successful business. No man in that region is more widely and favorably known and his cheerful presence and hopeful words and manner are always welcomed in the sickroom. Though enjoying one of the most extensive practices in the county, he

has identified himself with the material interests and development of Piedmont, and has given largely of his time and means to aid the suffering poor of the vicinity. The doctor is a member of the Tri-State Medical Society of Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Maryland; of the National Association of Railway Surgeons, and of the West Virginia Medical Society; and is surgeon of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and of the West Virginia Central & Pittsburgh Railroad. The doctor makes it a point to keep abreast with the progress made in his profession; and being located in the center of a coal-mining and railroading region, he has been called upon to do more than an ordinary amount of surgery, and has been remarkably successful in that branch of his profession. He is a Democrat in his political views, but has never been an aspirant for office. He has been a member of the City Council for a number of years. In Cumberland, Maryland, on the 28th of April, 1881, Dr. Parsons married Miss Lizzie Thrall, a native of New York State, and a daughter of the Rev. S. C. Thrall, S. T. D., a well-known clergyman of the Episcopal Church. Mrs. Parsons' early life was spent in New York City and San Francisco, in which cities her father held prominent positions in the Episcopal Church. She was educated at St. Mary's Hall, Burlington, New Jersey. The doctor and his wife have three living children: Frank Alan, Marie Louise and Mary Van Liew, all of whom are attending the Piedmont schools. Another son, Edgar Howard, died in infancy. Dr. Parsons and his wife are members of the Episcopal Church, and the doctor is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, which order he joined in Westernport, Maryland.

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## JOHN LOWE.

This gentleman is a worthy representative of that honest, industrious and law-abiding class that has helped make America the most favored nation on the face of the globe. He has been familiar with agricultural pursuits from his earliest boyhood, and in all the State of West Virginia there can be found no man who is a more worthy or intelligent representative of the farming community than John Lowe, who comes of a family of farmers, for his father, grandfather and in all probability his more remote ancestors, followed this most worthy and useful calling. He was born in Harrison County,

West Virginia, April 12, 1839, to John Booth and Rhoda (Smith) Lowe, and grandson of Robert Lowe, who was born in England and came to America in early manhood. He was married in this country to Elizabeth Swearingen, April 17, 1791, her birth having occurred in 1765. Four sons and two daughters were born of this union: Joseph, Josephus, John Booth, Druscilla, Elizabeth and Charles S. The Lowe family took up their residence in Harrison County, West Virginia (then Virginia), in 1808, but the same year the founder of the family in this section, Robert Lowe, was drowned in Booth Creek, his widow surviving him several years. John Booth Lowe was born near Hagerstown, Maryland, in 1802, and was consequently six years of age when he came to Harrison County. Such educational advantages as the common schools of that day afforded he received and upon reaching manhood his marriage with Miss Smith occurred. Her parents were Joshua and Mary (Wamsley) Smith, the former of whom was a native of this county and a son of Aaron Smith, one of the first settlers of this region. Their daughter Rhoda was born in 1811 and died June 11, 1849, after having become the mother of the following children: David S., Robert B., Joseph, Joshua S., John, Benjamin F. and Charles S. After the death of his wife, John B. Lowe married Susan Foreman, widow, daughter of David W. Robinson, of Lumberport, West Virginia, and two children were born of this union: Dora M. and Martin L. Although John Booth Lowe made farming his chief occupation, he at one time owned a saw mill and a tannery and in his business enterprises was quite successful. He was first a Whig and later a Democrat in politics, was Justice of the Peace for some years, and was Sheriff of Harrison County in 1850. He died June 29, 1876. John Lowe, the subject of this sketch, attended the public schools of this county and took a two-years' course in the Morgantown High School, and spent one year in the Northwest Academy at Clarksburg. He began farming and cattle-grazing for himself in 1861, on the farm on which he is now living and here his home has since continued to be. He was given a good start by his father, wisely made good use of his means and now owns the home farm of 409 acres, a tract of 140 acres in Clay Township, and a one-half interest in 204 acres in another county of this State. He is a thorough business man, just and upright and has frequently been chosen as a suitable person to settle large estates. Like his sire before him, he is a Democrat politically, has been a member of the Board of Education, has held various official positions and was a popular candidate for the State Legislature in 1880, but owing to the county being largely Republican he was defeated by a small majority. He



was married to Miss Hattie Higenbotham, daughter of George and Lydia (Griffin) Higenbotham, who came to this county from Greene County, Pennsylvania, in 1843, and here both eventually died, the mother in 1879, and the father in 1893. Mrs. Lowe was born in Greene County, Pennsylvania, March 30, 1840, the eldest of the following family: Hattie, William, Sarah, Samuel and Elizabeth. All are living but Mrs. Lowe, who died April 9, 1891, an earnest and worthy member of the Baptist Church, as is also Mr. Lowe. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lowe: Orval, born August 29, 1863, is a liveryman and farmer of Shinnston, West Virginia, and married Miss D. M. Shinn, by whom he has one child, Esther H. Seymour J., born October 23, 1865, is a farmer of Lewis County, and married Stella, the daughter of V. S. Moore, by whom he has two children, John and Robert P. Lloyd C., born March 12, 1868, is an architect by profession, is single and makes his home with his father. Frank L., born September 27, 1871, is a liveryman of Salem, West Virginia. Dora M., born September 28, 1874, died July 3, 1875, and Elia A., born October 6, 1876, has been attending school for the past two years in Miss M. J. Baldwin's College, Staunton, Virginia. For the present she is her father's housekeeper.

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## EDMOND FITTRO.

Edmond Fittro, who ranks among the prominent citizens of Harrison County, where he has spent the most of his life, his birth occurring here, in Coal District, in 1844, has been a prominent actor in agricultural affairs for many years. His parents, Martin and Catherine (Gaines) Fittro, were born in Harrison County, and the former died there in 1887. The mother is still living, and is an earnest member of the Methodist Church, of which her husband was long a member. The latter was a farmer. He was of German origin and the son of Joseph Fittro, who came from Pennsylvania to Harrison County, West Virginia, at an early date, being one of the first settlers. For many years he resided in this county, but later in life went to Ohio with several of his children and died there when well advanced in years. Many of his descendants are now living in Harrison County, where they are classed among the best people. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Jacob Gaines, was also an early settler of Harrison County, residing on

Gregory's Run until his death. He was a Revolutionary soldier. Although now eighty-four years of age the mother of our subject is fairly well preserved and is still comparatively active. Her ten children were named as follows: Silas, of Salem; Minerva, Almira, Dexter, Edmond, Luther, Samuel, Missouri; and Elbridge and Hester, both of whom died young. On his father's farm in Harrison County our subject reached mature years and secured a fair education in the common schools. In December, 1872, he married Miss Minerva, daughter of James Madison Mines (See sketch), and a native of Harrison County, who bore him six children: James Madison, Icy, Ira, May, Maud and Lulu. Farming has been our subject's principal occupation in life and for seven years he has resided on his present property, which consists of 114 acres, five and a-half miles west of Clarksburg. This is an excellent farm, well improved in every way, and well managed. Mr. Fittro is raising a good grade of stock and is one of the most practical farmers of the county. He also owns sixty-five acres in Ten-Mile District. Mr. Fittro is a member of the Methodist, and Mrs. Fittro a member of the Baptist Church, and they are liberal contributors and active workers in their respective churches.

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## SUMMERS MCCRUM.

The active life of this gentleman was profitably and usefully spent, and he has for a number of years past enjoyed that rest from the strife and turmoil of this busy world, which his early industry warranted. He was born in Beverly, Randolph County, Virginia, under the shadow of the Alleghenies, January 19, 1827, his parents being Hon. Robert and Anna (Dailey) McCrum, natives of Juniata County, Pennsylvania, and Leesburg, Loudoun County, Virginia, born August 8, 1791, and November 3, 1794, respectively. They were married March 14, 1816, after which they located in Beverly, Randolph County, West Virginia, and there the father engaged in merchandising, and carried on the manufacture of hats for a number of years. He served as Sheriff of that county for one or two terms, and as an old-line Whig was elected by a large majority in a Democratic county to the General Assembly of the State, in which body he served with distinction. After a useful life he died December 24, 1835. His wife survived him until January 6, 1877, when she passed away at Centerville, West Virginia. Summers

McCrum was the sixth in order of birth of a family of two sons and five daughters, of whom the two sons and three of the daughters grew to mature years. One daughter died at the age of thirteen years and the other at the age of five years. Cornelia C. became the wife of Adam Trainor, of Randolph County, who afterward moved to Pike County, Missouri, where Mrs. Trainor died. Louisa married William Jenks, of Randolph County, moved with him to near Rock Island, Ill., and there died. Caroline died after reaching womanhood near Beverly, West Virginia. James married and first settled in Aurora, West Virginia, later moved to Pike County, Missouri, and there was called from life. Serena married James Taggart, and she and the subject of this sketch are the only survivors of this family. Summers McCrum was reared in Randolph, Tucker, Doddridge and Tyler Counties, and, as was the rule with the average youth of his day, he received but limited common-school advantages and is mostly self-educated. About 1845, he came to Aurora and began clerking in a store belonging to Thomas B. Curtis, one of the foremost merchants of Randolph County, but prior to this he had driven a peddler's wagon in Randolph County for John Shaffer for over a year. In 1852, he formed a business partnership, bought out an established business and began merchandising for himself. Some years later he bought out his partner's interest and continued in the mercantile trade here and was one of the foremost business men for forty years. In 1892 he retired and his sons have since had charge of the business. He has also been engaged in farming and handling stock and for a number of years handled a great many sheep. In ante-bellum days he supported the principles of the Democratic party, but he afterward became a Republican. He has never aspired to office, but always found that his extensive business interests completely occupied his attention, and besides the political arena has never had any particular charm for him. He was one of the delegates to the convention that took steps to form a separate State of West Virginia. He was first married in Tyler County, Virginia, to Miss Eliza H. Nicklin, a daughter of Dr. Nicklin, a prominent physician of that county. She died August 14, 1881. To this union four children were given: Page R., who was educated in the University of West Virginia, at Morgantown, is now the senior partner of McCrum Brothers, of Aurora. He is married and has a family. Llyod L. died after reaching manhood. He was married and left one child. Alvin A. was educated in Mount Union, Ohio, is married, and is the junior partner of the mercantile house of McCrum Brothers; and Lillie May, wife of Charles F. Trotter, of Washington, D. C. Mr. Trotter was in the Weather Bureau,

in the Government employ, but is now in the Postoffice Department. Mrs. Hattie T. Hartwell, who was born in Portland, Maine, and reared and educated in that State, became Mr. McCrum's second wife in Florida. She died August 26, 1893. Mr. McCrum is a temperate man in every respect, and at an early day joined the Sons of Temperance at Aurora. He is a member of the Aurora Methodist Episcopal Church, is a kind, whole-souled gentleman, a useful, active and well-informed citizen, and a helpful and true friend. During the fifty long years that he has resided in the county he has left his impress upon her institutions, and his influence will be felt long after he has passed away.

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### HON. A. G. DAYTON.

The original of this notice is a member of the Barbour County bar, and a man of much more than ordinary ability, and uncompromising integrity. He was born in Philippi, West Virginia, October 18, 1857, attended the common school and graduated at the State University in June, 1878, as Bachelor of Arts. When twelve years old he was Page in the Legislature, and in connection with his college studies studied law, was admitted to the bar, October 18, 1878, on his twenty-first birthday, began practicing with his father and has become well known all over this portion of the State. Success has followed his efforts and he is classed among the first lawyers of the State. He never rests with the comprehension of a mere abstract proposition, but seeks the origin, history and philosophy of the law. In 1880, he was appointed Prosecutor of Upshur County, filled that position for a time and in the Fall of the same year was a candidate for Prosecutor of this county and made a good race, although defeated by a small majority. In 1884, he was a candidate for the same office and was successful, defeating a leading Democrat. In 1888, he was a candidate for Circuit Judge before the convention representing five counties, and secured the vote of four of them, but was defeated by one or two votes only. From that time up to 1894 he carried on his practice, but in that year he was nominated by the Republican party for Congress to fill the place of W. L. Wilson, at the time Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee and author of the Wilson Tariff Bill. This was the Second Congressional District of West Virginia, composed of fifteen counties, and he was the first Republican elected since the New Constitution.



*Alston G. Dayton*



He was elected by 2,047 plurality after the hottest campaign ever waged in the State. Mr. Dayton devotes all his extra time to his profession, is also engaged in coal speculation to some extent, and is a stockholder and director in the Tygart's Valley Bank. His parents, Spencer and Sarah (Bush) Dayton, have been well-known and well-respected residents of this county for many years. Spencer Dayton was born in Connecticut and was reared to manhood on his father's farm. Later he was apprenticed to learn the millwright trade, but subsequently studied law and was admitted to the bar. About 1847, he came to West Virginia, but could not practice on his Connecticut license, and went from there to Pennsylvania, where he was admitted to the bar. From there he came to Randolph County and there received a permit to practice. Soon after Barbour County was formed he made this his home and here he has resided since, engaged in practicing his profession. He and his son, our subject, constitute the firm of Dayton & Dayton. Mr. Dayton traces his ancestry back to the Mayflower, Jonathan Dayton, one of his ancestors, being in the convention of the colonists. Spencer Dayton has never aspired to office, but has served as Prosecutor of several of the counties surrounding this, and was a member of the State Senate, in 1868. He was also a member of the Wheeling Convention for the purpose of separating this State from old Virginia. During the Civil War he was a marked man for the Confederates and suffered many reverses financially. He had a valuable library destroyed by the Federalists, who did not know to whom it belonged. All through the war he was a strong Union man and was one of the most influential men of his section. His wife, who was the widow Barrett when he married her, was the daughter of Zadoc Bush, a native of Massachusetts, where he followed farming until his death. Mr. Dayton gives some of his attention to business, but our subject does most of the work attached to the firm. Of the four children born to Spencer Dayton, our subject is the youngest. The eldest, Eldon L., died in 1870; Imogen L. resides with her parents, and Ida died in infancy. Although Mr. and Mrs. Dayton are both seventy-four years of age they are well preserved, both mentally and physically, and are among the best citizens of the county. Mrs. Dayton is a member of the Presbyterian Church. In the month of October, 1884, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Lummie Sinsel, a daughter of Arthur Sinsel, who was superintendent of bridges for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. He resided at Grafton and was accidentally killed at Wheeling, January 25, 1889. He was a native of Virginia. His wife survived him about two years. Mr. and Mrs. Dayton's union has been blessed by the

birth of one son, Arthur Spencer, born in May, 1887. Mr. Dayton is an elder in the Presbyterian Church, but his wife adheres to the belief of the Baptists and is an active worker in that church. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge, of which he has been Grand Master for the State, and is a member of the Knights of Pythias order.

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## WALTER PHILLIPS.

In the various affairs of Upshur County, West Virginia, Walter Phillips has borne an active part, and is worthily classed among her most enterprising citizens. He was born in the county in which he now lives, but it was then known as Lewis County, in 1834, the fifth in a family of nine children born to Richard and Eliza (Perry) Phillips, natives of Massachusetts, in which State the paternal grandfather, David Phillips, was also born. He was of English descent and a farmer by occupation and came of a family that settled in New England during the Colonial period. Elias Perry, the maternal grandfather, was born in the Nutmeg State and came also of Colonial stock. His nephew was the famous Commodore Perry. David Phillips removed with his family to Virginia about 1813, settling in Upshur County, on French Creek, and there began clearing a large tract of woodland and converting it into a farm. Game was very abundant in those days and he and his five brothers all became noted hunters and trappers, in which occupation considerable money was earned. He was a well-known man and died in Upshur County after a well-spent life. Another of his nephews was Phillip Phillips, a noted church worker and composer of hymns. Richard Phillips became a millwright upon reaching manhood, although he also owned and conducted a farm in this county. He was Captain of a company of militia of the One Hundred and Thirty-third Virginia Regiment, and died in 1873. Walter Phillips was reared in the country and began life for himself as a cabinet-maker and house-joiner. He was following these occupations when the war came up, but personal considerations were at once cast aside as not worthy of consideration when his country was in peril, and in 1861 he joined Company E, Third West Virginia Infantry, United States of America, of which his brother, S. B. Phillips, was Captain. Two other brothers were in the Tenth West Virginia Infantry. The regiment to which Mr. Phillips belonged



was General McClellan's bodyguard at the battle of Rich Mountain. This regiment was later in the battle of the Wilderness, Richmond, Petersburg and several others of less importance, but in 1863 his military career was closed, for ill-health compelled him to retire from the service and he was honorably discharged. He returned home and soon after raised a company of State troops, of which he became Captain, and held this office until the war ended. He then opened a mercantile establishment at French Creek, which business became very extensive and satisfactory financially, and he continued to follow this occupation for twenty-six years. In 1888, he was elected Sheriff of Upshur County, and filled the responsible duties of this office for one term. He purchased the Hudkins House at Buckhannon and in 1893 moved to this place with his family and here has since made his home. Besides this he owns other city property and 450 acres of fine farming land, in two tracts, well improved and valuable. He was married in 1863 to Miss Hannah V. Shobe, who was born in the State of Virginia, and they have four children: Parley V., Lelah, Hazen W. and Vergie. Mr. Phillips was one of the organizers and charter members of the Grand Army of the Republic Post at French Creek, and for some time served as its Commander. He has attended many of the National encampments, and is an active member of the order. A substantial, useful and law-abiding citizen, he has many warm friends.

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## NORVAL SWIGER.

The entire life of this gentleman has been passed in ceaseless activity, and has not been without substantial evidences of success. He is an excellent type of the enterprise, industry and self-reliance so noticeable in the West Virginia farmer and a work of this kind would not be complete were not mention made of his career and its results. He was born in Eagle District, Harrison County, West Virginia, in 1834, a son of Jeriat and Ruth (Wilson) Swiger, natives of Harrison County, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania, respectively. The father spent his entire life in his native county and here died in 1880 at the age of eighty-one years, while the mother's death occurred here in 1882 at the age of seventy-eight years. Their married life was happier than that of the majority and extended over half a century. Soon after their marriage they settled on the farm on which the subject of this sketch is

now living, and although it was at that time heavily covered with timber, they succeeded in clearing it and greatly improving it. The paternal grandfather, Jacob Swiger, came thither from Pennsylvania in a very early day and located in the woods near Sardis, where he improved a farm on which the remainder of his life was spent. He was of Dutch descent. He was a man of fine physique and vigorous constitution, and his children inherited these qualities, seven of whom lived to be over eighty years of age. He became quite a noted Nimrod and many of the wild animals that roamed the woods of West Virginia at that time fell victims to his unerring aim. The maternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch was a Pennsylvanian, and on coming to this section located and spent the rest of his life on Ten-Mile Creek. Norval Swiger was one of ten children born to his parents: Lemuel (deceased); Mary Ann, widow of John Bartlett; Lewis (deceased); Harriet, wife of William Husted; Sarah, wife of Hamilton Allen; Norval; Ruth, wife of Washington Harbert; Laura, wife of N. S. Bates; Emily J., wife of John W. Hurst, and Jacob, who died in infancy. Norval Swiger was reared on a farm with little or no chances for acquiring an education, but possessing a naturally clear and fine mind he has read extensively and is considered an intelligent and well-informed man. He was married at the age of twenty-three years to Minerva, daughter of Martin and Catharine Fittro. She was born in Harrison County and their union has resulted in the birth of three children: Virginia, wife of Jasper S. Kyle, a prominent citizen of Eagle District; Emily Belle, wife of Emery Shreves, and Jeriah Elsworth. Mr. Swiger has spent his entire life on the farm of his birth and has an excellent and well-kept estate, comprising 232 acres. He has been industrious and persevering in his efforts to acquire a competency, and his success is well-merited. Politically he is a Democrat and he and his estimable wife are members of the Methodist Church.

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### M. H. PROUDFOOT, M. D.

This prominent and successful physician and surgeon who has been engaged in the practice of his profession for the past twelve years, was born in West Virginia, Taylor County, August 20, 1860. In that State his father was also born and there learned the carpenter trade. Subsequently settling

in Philippi, the latter was engaged in business there for a number of years and also carried on business in Taylor County for some time. For the last thirty years he has been with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, and for the past twelve years has resided in Baltimore, where he is foreman of the passenger car repairs. He was married in Taylor County to Miss Emily Freeman, who was born in Virginia, and whose father, William Freeman, was one of the pioneers of the State. The eldest of the three sons and one daughter born to the above-mentioned union is Dr. M. H. Proudfoot, and all grew to mature years and are now living. In the public schools of his native county our subject received his primary education, and later, by his own exertions, took a commercial course. Still later he began the study of medicine at Grafton with Dr. Thomas Kennedy, one of the celebrated physicians of Northwest Virginia, with whom he remained until the latter's death. After this he was with Dr. Grant, also of Grafton, until he began attending lectures at the Starling Medical College, at Columbus, Ohio, during the Winter of 1880 and '81. The following Spring, after taking his first course of lectures, he was appointed agent on the railway mail route, between Grafton and Wheeling, and continued in that business for about one year, but at the same time pursued the study of medicine. Later he returned to Starling Medical College and graduated in the class of 1884, after which he began practicing at Rowlesburgh, where he remained until the Fall of 1886. From there he went to Kendall, Kansas, thence to Colorado, but after two years returned to Rowlesburgh, where he resumed the practice of medicine, which he has continued very successfully since. He also engaged in the drug business at about the same time and is now doing a good business. The doctor is a member of the National Railway Surgeons' Association, also a member of the West Virginia Railroad Surgeons, and since 1885 has been surgeon of the Baltimore & Ohio road. Politically, the doctor is identified with the Republican party, and takes quite an active interest in local politics. He is also interested in educational matters, is commissioner for his district, and has served as a delegate to numerous county and State conventions, but has never aspired to office. The doctor was married in Baltimore, Maryland, June 29, 1887, to Miss Lida Sawtille, a native of West Virginia, who was reared and educated in New Orleans. Her father, William Sawtille, had been a resident of New Orleans for many years. To Dr. and Mrs. Proudfoot was born one child, Eva Colorado Proudfoot, who was born in Colorado. Dr. and Mrs. Proudfoot are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Rowlesburgh, and the former is a member

of Rowlesburgh Odd Fellow Lodge, of which he is Past Grand. He represented the same in the Grand Lodge of the State, and he is also a member of the Terra Alta Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and Knights of Pythias, of Rowlesburgh. Dr. Proudfoot has been a resident of Rowlesburgh for about twelve years and has been one of the active and public-spirited citizens and successful business men of that city. He is well known to the profession in Northwest Virginia, as a successful physician, and throughout the section in which they live he and his wife are highly respected.

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## ROBERT M. McMILLEN, M. D.

In few, if any, of the various avocations of life are there stronger incentives to activity and progress than in the medical profession. Dr. Robert M. McMillen, physician, surgeon and druggist, of Kingwood, West Virginia, is a man who has made his way to the front in his profession, as he has also in his career as a druggist. He is classed among the leading physicians of the county, and is thoroughly liked by all. His birth occurred near Masontown, this county, June 12, 1862, and in this county his father, Robert A. McMillen first saw the light also, as did also the grandfather, William McMillen. Robert McMillen, the great-grandfather of our subject, was numbered among the first settlers of what is now Preston County, locating near the present town of Masontown. The father of our subject married Miss Nancy Hartley, also a native of this county, and the daughter of Edward Hartley, who was one of the oldest settlers and best-known men of Preston County. After his union with Miss Hartley, Mr. McMillen engaged actively and successfully in agricultural pursuits and stock-raising on the old homestead, where all his children were born. There, after a useful life, he passed away in 1874. His wife survives him and resides on the old place with a son. Dr. Robert M. McMillen is fifth in order of birth of a family of seven children. His brothers are: Newton W. McMillen, residing on the old place; A. F. McMillen resides at Masontown, and is County Surveyor of Preston County; Rev. E. W. McMillen, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and resides in Kingwood; L. J. McMillen is Deputy Sheriff of this county. The sisters are: Charlotte, wife of John S. Miller, of Taylor County, West Virginia, and Belle, a young lady pharmacist of well-known ability, who assists the doctor in the store. Dr. McMillen was educated in the

schools of Preston County, and subsequently began the study of medicine under Dr. Cox, of Masontown, and then took lectures in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Baltimore, Maryland, graduating in the Spring of 1887. Following this the doctor located at Merna, Custer County, Nebraska, where he engaged in the practice of his profession, and where he remained about one year. From there, he went to New York in the Autumn of 1888, took a supplemental course at the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, and after graduating from that institution in 1889, returned to West Virginia, and located at Kingwood. Since then he has carried on a successful practice here and is the only druggist of the place, commencing business here in 1889. The doctor was married in Pruntytown, Taylor County, West Virginia, August 26, 1894, to Miss May Poling, a native of Barbour County, and a daughter of Rev. C. Poling, who is a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is now located in Taylor County. Politically, Dr. McMillen is identified with the Republican party, but does not care to hold office, preferring to give his time exclusively to his practice and to his drug business. He and Mrs. McMillen are live members of the Kingwood Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is an active worker and member in the Good Templar Lodge of Kingwood, of which he has been Past Chief Templar. A man of strict integrity and upright character, no man in the county is more universally liked.

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## PARLEY DE BERRY.

Among the prominent business men of Terra Alta, West Virginia, Mr. Parley De Berry holds a leading place, and the utmost confidence is placed in his judgment and sound sense. He is a product of this State, born in Preston County, August 19, 1854, and the son of Samuel De Berry, who was also a native of this State. The grandfather, Archibald De Berry, moved to Preston County at an early day and was one of the pioneers of this section. He located in the north part of the county and resided there many years. Samuel De Berry grew to manhood in this county and was married here to Miss Rachel Jeffreys, a native of Preston County, West Virginia, and the daughter of Joseph Jeffreys, who was also an old pioneer of this section. After his marriage, Samuel De Berry located near Terra Alta, near the State line, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits and stock-raising; and where he became one of the most successful farmers of the county.

He still resides on the old homestead, and although seventy-six years of age, enjoys comparatively good health. Parley De Berry, the second in order of birth of a large family of children, attended the schools of Preston County, but for the most part he is self-educated. For several years he taught school in his native county, several terms in Terra Alta, and was a member of the examining board for three years. He had made a study of surveying and followed that business for about nine years, after which he again returned to teaching. In 1886, he bought an interest in the mereantile business with J. P. Jones, of Terra Alta, continued with that gentleman for two years, and has been actively and successfully engaged in merchandising on his own account here since. He carries a complete stock of general merchandise, has built up a good trade and has established a reputation for excellent goods and fair dealing well known through the county. He also owns a half interest in a general store at Huttons, Maryland. In the month of June, 1887, he was married to Miss Anna E. Connell, a native of Maryland, where she was reared and educated, and the daughter of John Connell, one of the prosperous farmers of Garrett County, Maryland. Two children have blessed this union: Helen Margaret and Corinne Connell. In his political views Mr. De Berry advocates the principles of the Democratic party and was a candidate of his party for Surveyor. At the last election he ran for Sheriff. He is interested in all educational enterprises and was president of the Board of Education two terms. He has held other local positions of trust and honor. Socially he is a member of Terra Alta Knights of Pythias, and is Past Chancellor of the same. Mr. and Mrs. De Berry are active members of the Presbyterian Church and are deeply interested in all worthy enterprises. The former has been a resident of this county all his life and is well known in this part of the State as well as in Maryland. His business career has been a successful one and gives promise of a future that shall confirm his right to a leading place among the State's most enterprising and successful men.

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## HON. LOUIS F. STIFEL.

Wheeling, West Virginia, has its full quota of vigorous, intelligent and well-posted lawyers, whose popularity is based upon their thorough understanding of the law in all its details, and who are forcible and convincing pleaders at the bar. None among these is more highly regarded by those

who call upon his services than Louis F. Stifel, who was born in this city, October 9, 1851, a member of one of the best-known and oldest German families of this section. His father, C. E. Stifel, was born in Würtemberg, Germany, and in 1836 came from the land that gave him birth to the United States and was an active business man of Wheeling up to within a few years ago, when he retired from the active duties of life. His son, W. C. Stifel, is carrying on the business which he so ably built up. He was married in 1839 to Miss Becht and he and his wife are both living and enjoying a serene and hale old age. They reared a family of seven children: W. C., the tin merchant, of Wheeling; Louis F., the subject of this sketch; Elias C., Mrs. F. Schoening, of St. Louis, Missouri; Mrs. Catherine Schrader, of Wheeling, and Clara and Louise, who are at home with their parents. Soon after the arrival of C. E. Stifel in Wheeling he opened a tinware store, which he conducted until advancing years warned him to retire.

Louis Stifel, one of the foremost legal practitioners of Wheeling, has passed his entire life in this city and here, in the public schools, his initiatory training was secured. After pursuing a legal course in the Law Department of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, he was graduated with the class of 1876, was at once admitted to the bar and formed a partnership with Henry M. Russell, and from that time, 1877, until 1891, was thus engaged in the law practice, and built up for himself an enviable reputation as a civil attorney. In 1881, his ability was recognized by his election to the State Legislature and to this position he was again elected in 1887. His record in the House was a most praiseworthy one, and it is said of him that no man gave more careful attention or labored harder than did he. He is a far-seeing and shrewd business man and in the years of his practice he acquired a comfortable competency. In 1889, he and Henry M. Russell, with others, formed the Wheeling Title and Trust Company, and in 1891, Mr. Stifel was elected secretary of the same, and now has charge of the business affairs of the company. Aside from that he is connected with many other industries in and about Wheeling, is treasurer of the Home for the Aged in Wheeling; also for the City Hospital Association and in other ways has taken much interest in charitable matters. He is a director in the German Fire Insurance Company of this city, the United States Glass Company, which is one of the largest in the United States, and also other glass manufacturing plants, potteries and other manufacturing plants. In fact, he is a thorough and highly successful business man. He is one of the leading spirits of

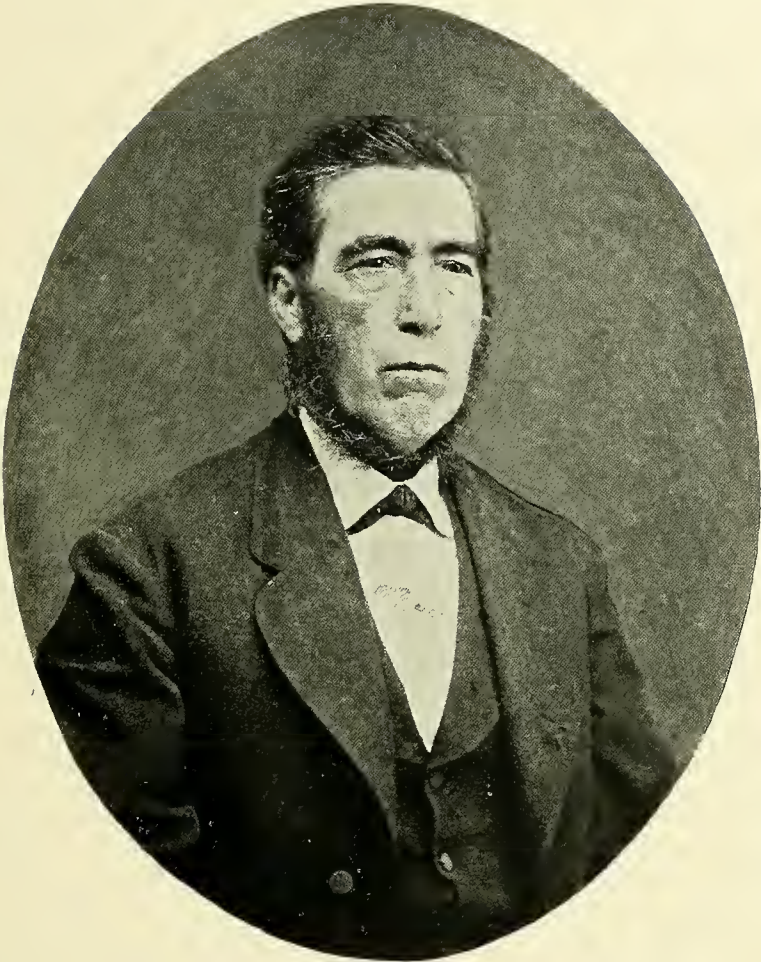
Wheeling in all public matters, is honorable and upright in all his business dealings and he is very frequently consulted on matters of business, for he has long since come to be regarded as a man of sound views and practical common sense. In his political proclivities he has always been a Democrat. He was married to Miss Eliza, the daughter of the late John Oesteter, a leading glass manufacturer of Wheeling, and one of the best-known business men of the State. In 1888, Mr. Stifel lost his first wife, who left him with a daughter, Sue. His second marriage was to Fredricka, a sister of his first wife, and they also have one child, Marie. Mr. Stifel and his family have a comfortable home on Sixteenth Street, Wheeling.

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### DR. J. C. KEMBLE--DECEASED.

Among those whose names are prominently interwoven in the medical history of Preston County, West Virginia, was Dr. J. C. Kemble, who for many years was one of the active and successful practitioners in this and adjoining counties. He was born at Pruntytown, West Virginia, May 21, 1817, and was well-educated at Rector College. Later he studied medicine with Dr. J. L. Carr, attended lectures and graduated from Richmond Medical College. After completing his college course the doctor located at West Union, Preston County, but subsequently removed to Evansville, Preston County, where he continued his practice. He was appointed postmaster at that place in 1845, and served in that capacity up to 1850. He had ever taken an active part in local politics and served two terms in the Legislature, besides receiving the nomination of his party (Democratic) for State Senator to represent Preston and Monongalia Counties. Probably in no capacity was Dr. Kemble more appreciated than as a church member. After locating here he gave up his active practice and subsequently became known as an earnest and active worker, and a generous giver to every worthy cause. As a physician, he ranked among the first, as a member of the Protestant Methodist Church he was ever active, and as a man he was honored and trusted, and beloved by all who knew him. The doctor was twice married, his last union occurring in Preston County, January 19, 1882, to Miss Catherine Carroll, a native of Preston County, and daughter of Anthony Carroll, who was also born in this county. Her grandfather, James Carroll, was one of the





*J. C. Humble*



pioneers of this county. Dr. Kemble passed away in Preston County, October 27, 1894, and a substantial monument marks his last resting place in the cemetery at Pruntytown. Mrs. Kemble survives her husband and resides on the old homestead in Kingwood, where she is surrounded by many warm friends.

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## JAMES W. PARKS.

This gentleman belongs to that class of American citizens who are enterprising, thorough-going and industrious, and who rise in a few years from a condition of dependence to one of prominence and the possession of considerable wealth. In fact, he is a self-made man in all that that much-abused term implies, and the success which has attended his efforts is well merited.

He first saw the light of day in the Town of Kingwood, West Virginia, August 10, 1834, his parents being Henry L. and Elizabeth (Garner) Parks, and his grandfather William Parks; the latter was a Virginian and of English descent, and his son, Henry L., was also born in that State, and when a young man removed to West Virginia. He was a skillful cabinet, chair and furniture-maker, and did a fair business while following this line of human endeavor.

The last few years of his life he lived in retirement and died near the village of Reedsville at the patriarchal age of eighty years.

James W. Parks was the eldest of their three sons and three daughters that grew to mature years, the other members of the family being Julia, who married John Williams, and resides near Kingwood; Phoebe, wife of Enos Ashburn, lives at Reedsville; Burgess died in Texas; Carrie, the wife of C. W. Dorsey, lives in Kingwood, and Lucian, who lives at Aurora.

James W. Parks spent his youth in Kingwood and received his education in the old Kingwood Academy. Under his father's instruction he learned the latter's trade, but upon reaching the age of twenty years he left home and went to Tunnelton, where he spent four years as a clerk in the mercantile establishment of Hon. J. C. McGrew, during which time he received a thorough, practical business training. He next went to Fairmont, West Virginia, and for six months during the year 1858, was engaged in clerking there. In April, 1859, he returned to Kingwood, and the three following years he was engaged in the mercantile business at that place, but disposed

of his stock in 1862. He was then appointed Assistant Assessor of Internal Revenue, under President Lincoln, and filled the position with ability until it was dispensed with at the close of the war, during that time he again engaged in the mercantile business at Kingwood, but again sold out at the end of three years. In the year 1871, he entered the National Bank of Kingwood as assistant cashier, which position he filled up to October, 1893, at which time he was appointed cashier, and has since served in that capacity—in all a period of twenty-four years, as assistant cashier and cashier.

Politically, he has ever been Republican in his principles, but has never been an aspirant for office. He has always manifested great interest in educational matters and has served as a member of the School Board of Kingwood Graded School for six years. Mr. Parks is a Master Mason; became a member of Kingwood Lodge of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in 1856; he has served as secretary of his lodge, and has been treasurer of the same for a number of years.

He was married November 3, 1868, to Miss Mary E. Heermans, a native of Illinois, but reared in New York, and was educated at Bath in that State. Her father, John Heermans, died in Corning in the State of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Parks have one child, Olive, reared and educated in Kingwood, and now the wife of George A. Walls, Deputy County Clerk of Preston County, West Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Parks lost one son, Guy, at the age of six years. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, have a wide circle of acquaintances and friends, and are universally respected.

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## WHEELING TITLE AND TRUST COMPANY.

This is one of the most substantial business concerns of which the city can boast and was established in 1889 with a capital stock of over \$100,000. Henry M. Russell, one of the leading attorneys of West Virginia was made president; C. J. Rawling, vice-president, and Louis F. Stifel, secretary. The building in which the business is carried on is owned by the company and up to 1891 an Abstract and Title Examining and Brokerage business was done, and since that date a general banking business has been carried on. The business has increased to such proportions that it now numbers among its depositors many of the leading business men and houses of Wheeling. Since

1891, Mr. Louis F. Stifel has been secretary and manager of the firm and since 1885 the stockholders and board of directors have been as follows: Dr. G. Ackermann, Henry Baer, H. F. Behrens, C. F. Brandfass, J. A. Hess, W. P. Hubbard, J. S. Naylor, C. J. Rawling (now vice-president), A. Reymann, H. M. Russell (president), and F. Schwertfeger, prominent business men of the city.

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## LEWIS P. WHITE.

The Terra Alta Bank could find no more capable or trustworthy cashier than Lewis P. White, who has held his position since the organization of the bank in 1892. He was born in Preston County, near Gladesville, December 20, 1856, a son of Thornton and Beersheba (Davis) White, the former of whom was born in Alleghany County, Maryland, March 23, 1823, and the latter in Virginia. They were married in Maryland and soon after took up their residence in Preston County, West Virginia, and in the Town of Gladesville Mr. White was actively engaged in the mercantile business for several years. In 1865, he came to Terra Alta, and here successfully conducted a general mercantile establishment for twenty years. He then sold out and retired to a farm near this place, where he now lives. He became the father of five children, three of whom are still living: Lewis P., W. T., a prominent merchant of Terra Alta, and Hattie, who is one of the successful educators of Preston County, her education having been obtained in the Terra Alta High School and at Fairmont. Lewis P. White was also educated in the schools of Terra Alta, and while growing up assisted his father in the store. He then opened a mercantile establishment of his own at Elk Garden, Mineral County, where he did a prosperous business for ten years, but about 1881 returned to Terra Alta. Upon the organization of the Terra Alta Bank he was elected cashier. He was married in this county May 4, 1882, to Miss Mary E. Burke, a native of Preston County, and a daughter of George W. Burke, one of the old settlers of the county. They have six children: Clarence G. T., Jessie P., Lewis P., Lillie D., Harry S. and William B. Mr. White lives on a farm which he owns near Terra Alta. Politically he is a Democrat and his first Presidential vote was cast for President, Cleveland. He at one time made the race for Circuit Clerk, and although he ran far ahead of his ticket he was defeated owing to the great

majority of Republican voters. Socially he belongs to the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in which he is secretary and treasurer, and to the Knights of Pythias, of which he is a Past Chancellor. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church and have gathered about them a wide circle of friends whose confidence and respect they fully enjoy.

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## JOHN M. FREELAND.

This gentleman who is a native of West Virginia, born in Preston County, April 23, 1842, is one of the most prominent millers of this part of the State and a member of the firm of Freeland & Cassady. His father, James Freeland, was a native of Preston County, West Virginia, and of Irish parentage, his parents coming to this country at an early date. James was married in his native county to Miss Sarah Ridenour, also a native of Preston County, and daughter of Martin Ridenour. Afterward he opened up a large farm in Portland district and tilled the soil successfully until his death in 1875, when sixty-seven years of age. After his death, Mrs. Freeland made her home with her son, our subject, John M. Freeland, until her death, December 28, 1893, when eighty-three years old. Their family consisted of seven children, three sons and four daughters, all of whom reached mature years. The eldest, Andrew J. Freeland, now deceased, was a farmer by occupation. The second, Mary A., became the wife of Edward F. King, of Preston County; David A. resides in Terra Alta; Rebecca R. is the wife of William H. Smith, of Preston County; John M., our subject; Elizabeth married Elias Kelley, of Terra Alta, and Sarah Louisa married Elijah Whitbair, of Preston County. Our subject passed his boyhood and youth on his father's farm and is mainly self-educated. On the 14th of February, 1865, he enlisted in defense of the old flag, in the Seventeenth West Virginia, Company I, and was stationed at Wheeling and Clarksburg until the close of the war, being discharged June 30, 1865. Returning home he followed farming until September 26, 1867, when he married Miss Eleanor Nordeck, a native of this county. For a number of years afterward he tilled the soil near Terra Alta, became the owner of 220 acres of land, considered one of the best farms in the country, and in connection was also engaged in farming and stock-raising up to 1884. About that time Mr. Freeland formed a partnership with John P.

Jones, and built the Terra Alta Flouring Mills and subsequently moved to Terra Alta. Since then he has had charge of the mill and has given his entire time and attention to it with the result that it is one of the best equipped, and turns out some of the best flour of any mill in this part of the State. Mr. Jones sold his interest to Mr. Cassady in April, 1891, and as the latter is admirably fitted in every way for the business, having had experience, and being possessed of excellent business acumen, he makes a valuable addition to the firm. Mr. Freeland lost his wife April 5, 1884. Their children were: David E. died when thirteen years old; Ida M., wife of J. B. Cassady, is now deceased; Laura A., wife of Albert T. Fraley, of Terra Alta; Sarah M. at home; Chester E. deceased, and Vernie E. at home. Mr. Freeland was married in Preston County, April 9, 1885, to Miss Mary Cassady, a native of the county, and daughter of John Cassady, also a native of this county, and formerly an active and successful farmer here, but now retired. Politically, Mr. Freeland is a Republican and cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, in 1864. Since then he has voted for every Presidential nominee of the Republican party. He has never aspired to office, but has given his entire attention to his business. For about twenty years, Mr. Freeland has been a minister in the Progressive Dunkard Church, and while on the farm he had a regular charge, preaching nearly every Sunday.

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## JULIUS SCHERR.

This active, enterprising and substantial business man of Eglon, West Virginia, has been in business at this point for about nineteen years, during which time he has won the hearty good will of all with whom he has had business relations and has built up a paying patronage, the result of his correct business methods. He was born in Switzerland, February 28, 1849, to Joseph and Gertrude (Arnold) Scherr, who were also natives of the land of Arnold Winkelried and William Tell. In 1856, Joseph Scherr came with his family to America and for two years was a merchant of St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1859, he moved to West Virginia and settled at Maple Run in Preston County (now Eglon), where he erected a business house and engaged in mercantile operations, continuing with success up to 1867, when he sold out and moved to Maysville. At this point he continued his former occupa-

tion for a number of years, then sold out to his son, and until his death, which occurred at Maysville in 1882, lived in retirement. His wife's death occurred about six months prior to his own. Their family consisted of two sons and two daughters that grew to mature years: Arnold C., who is a merchant and the owner of woolen mills at Maysville and Keyser; Julius; Emma, wife of C. M. Renninger, a business man of Cleveland, and Amelia, who is the deceased wife of J. Ossinger. In the county of Preston, West Virginia, Julius Scherr grew to manhood and in the public schools he received a good practical education, which he supplemented with a course at a Detroit Commercial College. He worked in his father's mercantile establishment until he arrived at mature years, and there received a practical business training, which in after years was of great benefit to him. Upon arriving at mature years he went to Washington City, where he opened a mercantile establishment and continued to do business for sixteen years, his reputation for fair dealing and upright business principles becoming widely known. During a considerable portion of this time he was associated in business with his father-in-law, Henry Sievers, but in 1883 he sold his stock of goods there on account of poor health and came to Eglon, soon after which he purchased his brother's mercantile house here and has since been very actively engaged in the mercantile business. His stock of goods is of a general description, is extensive and well selected and his patronage is consequently large. In Washington, D. C., on the 20th of September, 1870, Mr. Scherr was united in marriage with Miss Emelie Sievers, a daughter of Henry Sievers. She was born in Baltimore, reared and educated in Washington, D. C., and is an intelligent and refined woman. Her union with Mr. Scherr has resulted in the birth of nine children: Julius J. died August 13, 1894, at the age of twenty-three years; Gertrude E., Arnold A., who assists his father in the store; Henry L., Edwin Garfield, Milton C., Alma, Ethel and William Burkhart. Since he became a voter, Mr. Scherr has identified himself with the Republican party. His first Presidential vote was cast for James G. Blaine and for every nominee of the Republican party since that time. He has held a number of local offices and since 1885 by re-election has filled the office of Justice of the Peace. A warm friend of the cause of education, he has served for years as president of the Board of Education and in other ways has manifested his interest in the cause. He has served as a delegate to numerous county, State and Congressional conventions, and to whatever position he has been called, he has shown himself to be efficient, trustworthy and painstaking. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and the Mystic Chain, in the



former of which he is Past Chancellor, and he has represented each lodge in the Grand Lodge of the State. He and his wife are well known in Preston County, are worthy members of the Lutheran Church and their friends are legion.

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## HON. T. R. CARSKADON.

It matters little what vocation a man may select as his life occupation so long as it is an honorable one. If he is an honest, upright man, courteous in his intercourse with his fellow-men and possessed of the average amount of energy and business sagacity, he is bound to make his business a financial success. Because the subject of this sketch is the possessor of all the above requirements, is the chief reason that he has succeeded; because he is far above the average in point of natural business qualifications, is the reason he to-day stands among the best and most prosperous tillers of the soil of which Mineral County can boast. He was born in what is now Hampshire County, West Virginia, May 17, 1837, but his father, Thomas Carskadon, was born near Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in 1793, although he was reared in Hampshire County, Virginia, whither he came with his parents, who were of Scotch-Irish extraction, when he was four years of age. His father, who also bore the name of Thomas, was a soldier of the War of 1812, but in civil life he followed the peaceful pursuit of farming, and to this honorable and useful occupation he reared his son Thomas. The former Thomas Carskadon, Sr., upon reaching manhood, was married to Miss Mary Johnson, a native of Hampshire County and a daughter of Oakey Johnson, one of the pioneers of that county and of a prominent New Jersey family. Thomas Carskadon, Sr., settled on the old homestead in Hampshire County, and during his lifetime added largely to the farm. He was very prominent in the political affairs of his section and for many years was a member of the Virginia Legislature, and filled various local offices. He was a member of the County Court and for many years was a director of the bank, in the main city of that county. He was called upon to pay the last debt of nature in 1856, and his wife died about one year earlier. T. R. Carskadon is one of the seven children born to his parents, the other members of the family being: James, who became a prominent politician and served in the State Legislature in 1860. Later he became a member of the West Virginia Senate, in which he represented

Hampshire County for many years. He is now deceased. Catherine S. became the wife of Robert K. Sheetz, and both died in Hampshire County; Elizabeth J. married Henry Head and lived and died in Hampshire County; William J. has for many years been one of the foremost farmers of Lewis County, Missouri; Isaac H., now deceased, was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and John R., who is a leading business man and prominent citizen of Keyser. Although the subject of this sketch, like many of the youths of his period, had but limited school advantages in his youth, he possessed a naturally fine mind and made the most of such opportunities as came in his way. Upon reaching man's estate he began tilling the soil for himself, and first came into prominence in the political field as the youngest member (twenty-two years old) of the Constitutional Convention of West Virginia, in which he took an active part, after which he became United States Assessor, Second District of West Virginia, Presidential elector for the same district for both Grant and Hayes, and for many years was a prominent member of the Republican State Committee, from which he resigned in 1884 when the Republican State Convention voted down a resolution favoring the submission of a Prohibition Amendment to the people. In 1863, he bought the place on which he now resides, a tract of 512 acres on which some slight improvements had been made. Since that time he has erected a large, substantial and neat brick residence, a commodious and well-constructed barn and other necessary farm buildings, and, in fact, has made his place one of the best improved and finest country homes in the county. He has been quite extensively engaged in dealing in cattle (of the Jersey breed), sheep and hogs, and every nook and cranny of his extensive estate indicates conclusively that a man of energy, thrift and enlightened views has the management of affairs. He was one of the original directors and stockholders of the Keyser Bank, and in addition to this and his farming interests is quite extensively engaged in other lines of business. Originally an old line Whig in politics, he was strictly loyal to the Union during the Civil War, and during that time was a refugee to Ohio and other States. He afterward identified himself with the Republican party, was for many years a prominent member of the Republican State Committee, from which he resigned in 1884, when the convention voted down a resolution favoring the submission of a prohibition amendment to the people. He was then one of the organizers of the Prohibition party in the State, and thoroughly appreciates the fact that none of his old friends and co-workers in the Republican party have ever charged him with insincerity in leaving the

party. By the State delegation to the National Prohibition Convention he was nominated and voted for as a Vice-Presidential candidate (in 1892), being known as the "Lincoln of West Virginia," and prior to this time, in 1888, he was the candidate for Governor of the State. He has ever been a patron of education and is the present president of the Town School Board, and in this capacity uses every endeavor to raise the standard of the public schools in his-section. He has also been a member of the County Board of Commissioners and has ably filled other local official positions. Mr. Carskadon was married in Hardy County, October 19, 1859, to Miss Sarah A. Babb, who was born, reared and educated there, a daughter of Peter Babb, and four children have been born to them: Newton B., a leading lawyer of Kansas City, Missouri; Luther T., who acquired his professional education in the Law Department of the University of Boston, is also in Kansas City, Missouri; Henry D., a practical and successful farmer and stock dealer, is the manager of his father's varied industries, and is an intelligent and well-posted man, and Jane C., an intelligent and popular young lady, will soon graduate from the Keyser High School. Two daughters are deceased: Carrie H., who died at the age of ten years, and Mary, who died when six months old. Mr. Carskadon has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since he was fourteen years of age, and with this church his wife and younger children have also connected themselves. He is very charitably inclined and is liberal in his support of religious organizations.

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## LEMUEL D. HOLDEN.

It is a pleasure to narrate the history of a man whose life has been one of honor and usefulness, and although he is considerably past the zenith of his career, Mr. Holden has accumulated sufficient means to pass his declining years in peace and plenty. He was born in Harrison County, October 20, 1813, and is a son of Peter W. and Nancy (Hickman) Holden, natives of Harrison County also. The father was born October 12, 1793, and the mother October 24, 1795. They spent their entire lives in Harrison County, where they were among the honored pioneer settlers, Mrs. Holden dying December 6, 1853, and Mr. Holden September 5, 1872. Both were Baptists and he was a minister of that sect for many years. He was also a farmer.

His father, Benjamin Holden, came from New Jersey to Harrison County, in pioneer days, and located on Elk Creek, above Clarksburg, where he spent the remainder of his days. He was a stonemason by trade. It is thought that he was born in England. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Arthur Hickman, and his wife, were also natives of Harrison County. The great-grandfather, Latha Hickman, was one of the first settlers of Harrison County, which at that time was overrun with Indians. Lemuel D. Holden, the only child born to his parents, had little schooling in those pioneer days, but spent the most of his time in assisting his parents on the farm. On the 24th of December, 1833, he was married to Miss Eliza W. Haskinson, a native of Harrison County, and daughter of Leonard and Elizabeth Haskinson, early settlers here. Fifteen children were given Mr. and Mrs. Holden, as follows: Lloyd W., a Baptist minister; Amanda (deceased), was the wife of Robert Adams; Mary A. (deceased); Wilson P., a merchant at Clarksburg; Hezekiah (deceased); Martha C., widow of Brown Adams; Minter J., a farmer of Harrison County; John C. (deceased); Lee D., a farmer; Alexis; Sarah A., wife of George Pool; Nancy; Olive L., wife of Evander Davis; Helen V., wife of Frank Cast, and Anna B. Mr. Holden has spent all his life in Harrison County and has farmed most of the time. He served four years as Deputy Sheriff of Harrison County, his time expiring at the beginning of the war. He owns 140 acres three miles above Clarksburg, where he has resided seventy years, and where he is held in the highest estimation by all. For many years he and his wife have been members of the Baptist Church, and for nearly two-thirds of a century they have had a contented and happy married life. Politically he is a Democrat, and since his first Presidential vote in 1836, when he voted for Van Buren, he has remained with that party.

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## BENJAMIN BASSEL.

This successful tiller of the soil of Upshur County, West Virginia, was born in Harrison County, this State, December 30, 1815, the third of ten children born to Benjamin and Susannah (Jackson) Bassel, the former of whom was born in Connecticut and the latter in Virginia. The paternal grandfather was of English descent and came of a prominent New England family. The maternal grandfather, Stephen A. Jackson, was born in New

Jersey, but removed to Virginia in his youth and became a scout and Indian spy. He was one of the first to locate in Harrison County. Benjamin Bassel, father of the subject of this sketch, came to Virginia as a peddler from Connecticut, eventually married in Harrison County, and in 1810 settled on a farm which he tilled with success until his death. He served for a long period as Justice of the Peace and was discharging the duties of this office at the time of his death, which occurred at about the opening of the war. The subject of this sketch was reared in Harrison County, but received his education in Meadville, Pennsylvania, graduating from an educational institution of that place in 1840. He then began the study of law at Clarksburg, and in 1841 was admitted to practice, but very soon afterward entered political life and was elected to the State Legislature in 1842, in which capacity he served two terms, after which he was elected to the Senate and served one term. During this time he was also the publisher of the *Scion of Democracy* at Clarksburg. In May, 1853, he moved to Upshur County, from which he was elected to the State Legislature in 1860. His sympathies were with the South during the war and during that period he resided in Virginia. In 1865, he returned to his home in Upshur County and now lives on a fine farm of 700 acres, one and one-half miles from Buckhannon. This farm is a very valuable one, is finely improved and on it is a still handsome, substantial and commodious residence which was erected in 1853. He was married in November, 1841, to Miss Elizabeth A. Gusman, a native of Morgantown, West Virginia, and daughter of Joseph and Mary Jackson, the former a native of Virginia, and his father a native German. They belong to the well-known Jackson family of Virginia. Of ten children born to Mr. and Mrs. Bassel, the following are living: Joseph H., Mary E., wife of Dr. Carpenter, of Cleveland, Montgomery, and Benjamin, Jr.

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## HON. F. H. PIERPONT.

Hon. F. H. Pierpont, one of West Virginia's most distinguished sons, was born in Monongalia County, Virginia, June 25, 1814. As a boy he worked upon his father's farm, and in the tanyard, until he arrived at his majority. In the meantime he attended school at intervals in the neighborhood where he resided. At twenty-two he matriculated as a student at

Allegheny College, Pennsylvania, and remained there, an earnest, industrious toiler, until June, 1840, when he graduated. After graduation he went South, and taught school in Mississippi. Having determined to enter the legal profession, while a teacher he began a systematic course of reading. In a year or two he passed the required examination, and, returning to Virginia, was admitted to the bar at Fairmont, Marion County. Being thoroughly educated, and possessing a pleasant address, added to a high order of talent as a public speaker, he was not long in attaining a rank as an attorney that brought clients, reputation and fees to his law office. He has spent almost his entire mature life in the Town of Fairmont, in the practice of his profession and now, at the age of eighty-one, he still lives to enjoy the fruits of a distinguished and successful career, and possesses the confidence and respect of the people with whom over fifty years of his life have been spent.

Educated in northern ideas and among northern people he naturally became an outspoken Abolitionist. His convictions were so intense, he rarely allowed an opportunity to pass without open opposition to the doctrine of human slavery. He took an active part, even before graduation from college, in the general political discussions of the times and to this day he enjoys the opportunities often extended to him by his fellow citizens of speaking at length upon the living questions that are now before the people in State and National campaigns. Indeed, there are but few platform speakers his equal in the entire State.

At the June 11, 1861, convention, held at Wheeling, for the purpose of reorganizing the Government of Virginia, after the State had seceded from the Union, Mr. Pierpont was almost unanimously elected Governor by the representatives of the forty counties that had sent delegates to the convention. He held office under this election for about twelve months, and in the meantime was elected by the people to fill an unexpired term of two years. He was subsequently re-elected by the loyal people of the State for the full term of four years, and was recognized by President Lincoln as the legitimate Governor of Virginia. He was one of the many War Governors of the States who stood by the Government in its darkest hours, and contributed a noble part in sending troops to the front to defend the flag. He was true as steel in those solemn times that tried men's souls.

After the division of Virginia into two separate States, Governor Pierpont removed the State archives to Alexandria, convened the Legislature, and remained there two years. At his call, in 1864, a convention assembled,

which, by vote, abolished slavery in the State. When Richmond fell, he removed the seat of government from Alexandria to that city, and in a few months had the State properly reorganized. During his entire administration, he made it a matter of conscience never to appoint a man to office without moral and intellectual qualifications for the place. A part of his record is that during the seven years of official position, amid the degeneracy of the war, there never was a suspicion of the misappropriation of one dollar of the public money.

At the close of his gubernatorial mission, Governor Pierpont returned to Fairmont, and resumed the practice of his profession. In 1870, he was elected a delegate from Marion County to the West Virginia Legislature. His natural abilities, added to his long experience in public affairs, equipped him for great usefulness in that body. He was an active and influential member, and did much in shaping the legislation of that session. He was appointed Collector of Internal Revenue by President Garfield, and held the office until the First and Second Districts were consolidated and thus legislated him out of office.

Governor Pierpont became a member of the Methodist Protestant Church when eighteen years of age, and has usually been a member of its important conventions, and several times representative to the General Conferences.

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## CHARLES JARVIS.

Associated with the growth and progress of Harrison County is the name of Charles Jarvis, a successful breeder of short-horn cattle, and a prominent farmer of this section. He was born March 11, 1862, in Harrison County, West Virginia, and was early trained to farming and stock-raising. Mr. Jarvis is the eldest of twelve children born to Werninger and Eliza (Rector) Jarvis, both natives of this State. The grandfather, Jesse Jarvis, was an early settler of this county and served as Circuit Clerk at Clarksburg for a number of years. He also followed merchandising in that city, but his latter days were spent in farming. Werninger Jarvis owned the land and laid out and sold the lots of Jarvisville in 1872. He was also instrumental in getting the postoffice here. Jarvisville has at the present time over 100 inhabitants, three stores, a good steam mill, Baptist Church, good school,

coal bank, and is a good trading place, and is surrounded by a fine country. He built the flour mill and operated the same until his death in 1880. He was also the owner of a good farm. His wife still survives and is about fifty-eight years old. Her father, Nelson Rector, was a native of this State and but little is known of his history. Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis were the parents of twelve children, as above mentioned, three of whom died young. The others were named: Sarah, Rosa, Charles, William, John, Rector, Minnie, Annie and Genevra K. Our subject remained with his parents until the death of the father, in 1880, when he took charge of the farm of 106 acres. This he has improved in every way and has under a fine state of cultivation. In 1881, he commenced dealing in short-horn cattle in a small way and now raises and handles some very fine animals. He got the first stock from Kentucky, purchased in 1891; a male and two heifers, all registered, and in the Spring of 1895 bought a fine animal of a famous Ohio breeder. He has sold many choice animals through Harrison County and is authority on the subject of breeding short-horn cattle. He also handles a few sheep, Chester white hogs and is prepared to supply the county with them. Mr. Jarvis married Miss Ella Post, daughter of J. B. Post, of this State, and granddaughter of Jacob Post, who came to this part of the State from East Virginia at an early day. Mrs. Jarvis is the eldest of twelve children, as follows: Ella, Michael R., Edith, William, Sophronia, Howard B., Hiram O., Truman A., Luther, Earl. Our subject and wife became the parents of five children: William T., Alfred, Pearl, Elton D. and Charles H. The two elder are attending school. Mr. Jarvis still owns all the town lots of Jarvisville that have not been sold. He is interested in all worthy movements. In politics he is a Democrat. Mrs. Jarvis is a member of the United Brethren Church.

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## JASPER PEW.

To build a house and build it well requires that a man shall possess certain qualities of mind or else his house will "tumble about his ears." Jasper Pew is one of the most successful and intelligent contractors and builders of Clarksburg, West Virginia, and many are the sightly buildings that stand as monuments to his skill throughout Harrison County. He was born on the West Fork River in Marion County, West Virginia, June 23, 1833, to



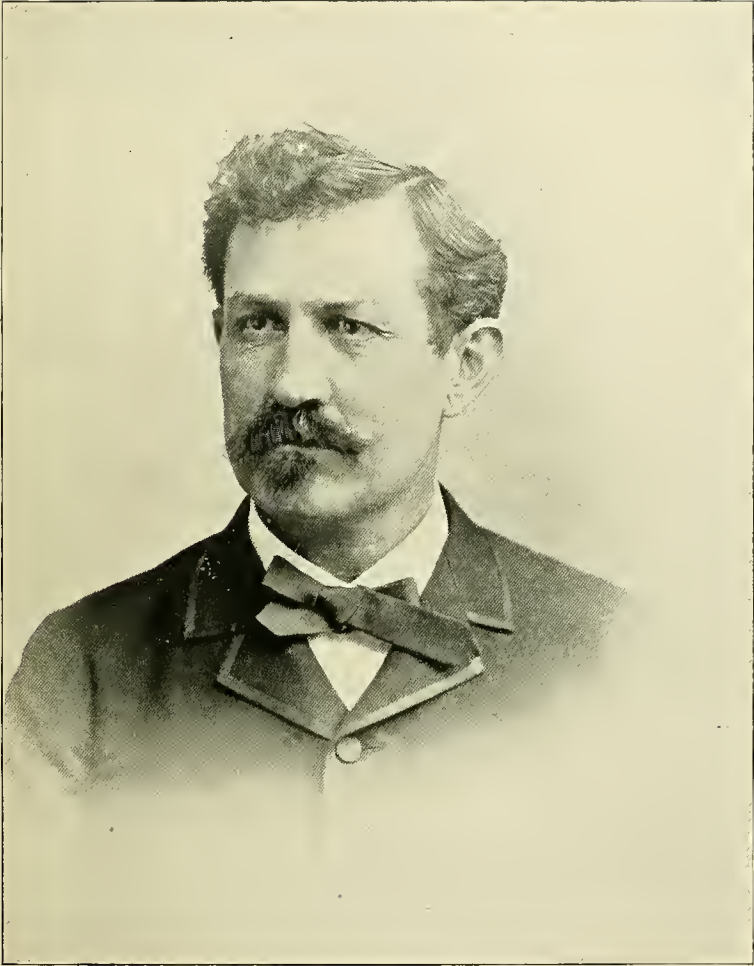
Abraham and Martha (Barnett) Pew, the former of whom was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, a son of one of the early pioneers of the Keystone State, who is supposed to have come to this country from England or Wales. Abraham Pew died in Harrison County, November 14, 1850, having been a resident of the State from about 1836, but first a resident of Marion County, where he successfully tilled the soil. He was married in Pennsylvania, his wife being a daughter of Joseph Barnett, who was a soldier of the Revolution, and was in a number of important engagements. He received a pension for the services he rendered, and died in 1848, or about that time. His wife, a Miss Smith, was a native of Ireland. They were farmers and politically he was an old-line Whig. Their home place was located about two and a half miles from Clarksburg, they were worthy members of the Presbyterian Church, and they are now sleeping their last sleep in Jackson Cemetery at Clarksburg. Their family consisted of seven children, while in the paternal grandfather's family there were five children. Abraham Pew and his wife reared six daughters and six sons: Phoebe became the wife of John Varner, by whom she became the mother of a large family, one son being a noted minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Michigan. She died at the age of eighty-four years; Mariah, who died in 1861, was the wife of Christopher Nutter, a farmer of this county; Phronia is the wife of John McPherson; Sarah married Joseph Powell, of this county, and both are deceased—Lem R. Powell, of Fairmont, is a son; Preston, who died in 1893, in Washington City, was well-known in public life. He was a soldier of the Civil War, was afterward elected to the State Senate and still later filled various offices at Washington City until his death. He left a widow and three daughters; Blackburn is a builder of New York City, and is a man of family; Newton is a farmer of Upshur County, West Virginia, and Jasper, the subject of this sketch. The mother of these children died May 2, 1867, a worthy member of the Baptist Church. The father was a well-known man in Harrison County and was justly looked upon as a worthy citizen and a man of honor. The early days of Jasper Pew were passed in this county, and at the age of eighteen years he came to Clarksburg with his widowed mother, and here learned the trade of a carpenter, which he has since followed. He assisted in establishing the Baptist Church of Clarksburg, of which he is a member, is a member of the Planing Mill Company of Clarksburg, and in various ways has shown that he is a public-spirited man. Although a Republican in his political views, he has given much attention to the subject of temperance and on one occasion was a candidate on the

Prohibition ticket for the State Senate. He was married to Miss Hannah Mines, daughter of James M. Mines, who is now living two miles from Clarksburg, but was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife by death in December, 1879. She left him three children: Grant, who died at the age of twenty-three; Sheridan, who is a resident of Denver, Colorado, and Colfax, who is a resident of New York City, and a man of family. Mr. Pew's second wife was Miss Lillie Cullimore, of Jacksonville, Ill., and they have two little daughters, Joy and Ruth. Mrs. Pew is a member of the Baptist Church and she and her industrious and intelligent husband move in the best social circles of Clarksburg.

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## HON. ANDREW EDMISTON.

Among professional men, and especially those of the legal profession, there is so much competition that the man who rises to a position of special prominence and distinction through his own efforts, may justly be accredited with the possession of more than ordinary ability. Such a man is Hon. Andrew Edmiston, who is one of the foremost, as well as one of the most popular lawyers of Lewis County, West Virginia. He is a native of the town in which he now resides—Weston—born in 1849, and is the third of five sons born to Judge Matthew and Minerva (Bland) Edmiston, native Virginians. The founder of the family in this country was Matthew Edmiston, a Scotch-Irishman, who located in Chester County, Pennsylvania, but later took up his abode in Augusta County, Virginia. His son James was born October 7, 1746, and was married to Miss Jane Smith, a native of Ireland. Their son Andrew was born in Virginia, and in 1807 was married to Miss Mary Gilliland, and by her became the father of Matthew Edmiston, the father of the subject of this sketch. The latter's maternal grandfather, Thomas Bland, was born in the Old Dominion and was one of the first settlers of Weston, Virginia. He represented his county for twelve consecutive terms in the Legislature of Virginia, and was afterward a Senator of his district. His maternal grandmother was Mary Newlon, a daughter of an old and well-known Virginia family. Judge Matthew Edmiston began the study of law in early manhood and about 1835 was admitted to the bar in Pocahontas County, after which, in the year 1839, he settled in Lewis County. The following year he was married to Miss Bland. In a



Andrew Edmiston



very short time his knowledge of the law, his fine mentality and his recognized public spirit led to his election to the Virginia Legislature, in both branches of which he served with distinction. In 1852 he was elected to the position of Circuit Judge of Virginia, in which capacity he served until the opening of the great Civil War, when he began practicing his profession at Parkersburg, Virginia, and built up a large clientele. He was a very able lawyer and his name became well-known throughout the State. His great popularity led to his election, in 1871, to the Constitutional Convention, but owing to ill-health he never qualified for the office. In 1876 he was appointed to the Supreme Bench. He died in 1887, after some years of retirement because of ill-health. He was a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. Of his five sons four became physicians and one a lawyer. Thomas B. studied medicine in New York, became an extensive and successful practitioner and died in early manhood. Theodric Granville pursued his medical course in Baltimore and New York, was for years a medical practitioner at Weston, served as physician in the Hospital for the Insane at this place, and died in December, 1894. Matthew also studied medicine in Baltimore and New York, also located in Weston, and was first assistant superintendent in the Hospital for the Insane at the time of his death, in April, 1894. George B. was a medical student in Baltimore and Kentucky, located in Buckhannon, where he married, built up a large practice, and died there in March, 1891. Andrew Edmiston received his literary education at the University of Virginia, graduated in law from Washington and Lee University, in June, 1872, located in Weston for the practice of his profession, and the same year was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Lewis County, serving by re-election for eight years. In 1880, he was elected to the House of Delegates of West Virginia, attended the regular and special sessions, served on the Judiciary Committee, and was chairman of the Committee on Claims and Grievances. During a number of subsequent years he held several minor offices and in 1891 was appointed director of the West Virginia Hospital for the Insane at Weston, which position he still holds. In 1893, he became president of the board of directors and under his charge the building was fully remodeled and improved and the standard of the institution greatly raised. In the fall of 1894 he was the only Democrat elected to any office from Lewis County, he being again chosen as a Representative in the Legislature. He served on the Judiciary, Federal Relations, Private Corporations and Stock Companies, Humane Institutions and Public Buildings, Railroads, Executive Officers and Libraries and Rules Com-

mittees, and was also on the Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills. Mr. Edmiston was the recognized leader of his party on the floor of the House and was the author of the most popular measure before the House, known as "The Virginia Debt Resolution," which passed both branches without a dissenting vote, although opposed by a powerful lobby. He has a fine general law practice and has participated in almost every noted case that has come up in the county since he was admitted to the bar. A brilliant political future awaits him and any honor that may be tendered him will undoubtedly be merited. He is well-to-do in worldly goods, owns several farms and has some of the best thoroughbred horses in the county. He owns a one-fourth interest in the flouring mills at Weston, and also owns some valuable business blocks. He is a charter member of the lodge of Knights of Pythias, and has passed all the chairs of the order. Before closing this brief biography it might be mentioned that Mr. Edmiston is a lineal descendant of Sir David Edmiston, a cup-bearer of James I., of Scotland; also of Sir James Edmiston, standard-bearer of the royal colors in the battle of Sheriff-Moor. On his mother's side he traces his lineage directly to the Campbells, one of the most celebrated of the Scottish clans. In the War of the Revolution, and notably in the battle of King's Mountain, his more immediate ancestors—the Edmistons—especially distinguished themselves for patriotism and bravery. Mr. Edmiston has never married. The recent death of his mother leaves him and one sister, Mrs. G. M. Fleming, of Buckhannon, the only surviving members of his father's family.

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## DR. CALEB B. FLOWERS.

This prominent physician of Sardis, Harrison County, West Virginia, was born in Harrison County, June 21, 1831, son of Dr. Jesse Flowers, and of Irish-French origin. The Flowers family came to America prior to the Revolutionary War, and settled in old Virginia. There the grandfather of our subject, John Flowers, was born, but later he moved to Harrison County, West Virginia, in a very early period in the history of the same, and at a time when the Indians were plentiful and dangerous. He was a potter by trade, a man well-known in this section, and a soldier in the War of 1812, but was never in an engagement. Dr. Jesse Flowers was born in

Virginia, but came with his father here, and experienced all the hardships incident to pioneer life. Later he studied medicine and became one of the best-known physicians in this section, having a very extensive practice. He was also popular in other respects and represented Harrison County in the Virginia Legislature. From there he moved to Marion County, represented the same in the Legislature and was subsequently a candidate before the Congressional Convention, but was defeated. He was Justice of the Peace for years, held other local positions, and was well and favorably known all over the State. For his time and day he was a very skillful surgeon and was a leader among the early pioneers. In connection with farming and his profession, he also ministered to the spiritual wants of his many friends, being a preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church. His death occurred in 1872. He was twice married in Harrison County and reared a family of about ten children. Among this number was Caleb B. Flowers, one of the eldest of the family. He was educated in the early schools of this county and in the schools of Ohio, and when about thirty-five years of age began practicing medicine. He is well and favorably-known over Harrison, Marion and Doddridge Counties, is a man of broad reading, and is well up with the times. Politically he is a Republican. Dr. Flowers was married in Harrison County to Miss Naomi J. Fortney, a native of this county, born in 1832, and the daughter of Joshua D. Fortney. They reared a family of three sons and six daughters, as follows: Viola, wife of N. T. Hess, of Marion County; Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Hess; John W., residing at Prospect Valley, this county, on a farm, married Miss Ida McIntire; A. O., a physician of this county; E. Newton, also a physician; Ida B., wife of Ardis L. Husted, of Sardis; V. May, a teacher in the schools of Harrison County; Lillie F., Naomi, attending college, and two died in infancy. Mrs. Flowers died in this county. The doctor is still living and although he is now in his sixty-ninth year, he enjoys good health. His son, A. O. Flowers, M. D., was born in Prospect Valley, April 29, 1863, and received his primary education in the free schools of that county (Harrison). Later he followed teaching for two years, and when fifteen years old, began the study of medicine with his father. In 1883 he entered the medical college at Baltimore and passed the State Board in 1884. For seven years after this he practiced and then entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons, from which he was graduated in 1891. Since 1884 he has been engaged in a general practice, and has met with a more than ordinary degree of success. He is exceptionally well versed in medical lore, keeps up with the times in his profession,

and is energetic and pushing. Politically he is with the Republican party, and socially an Odd Fellow and a member of the Junior Order. He is also a member of the Harrison County Medical Association. In 1894 he located in Clarksburg. The doctor married Miss Laura M. Pigott, who was born and educated in this county and whose father, Colonel Elam F. Pigott, was a soldier of note, holding rank in the Union army. Two children were given them, Marian and Grace B. Dr. and Mrs. Flowers are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and attend the Goff Chapel. Dr. E. Newton Flowers, son of Caleb B. Flowers, was born on the old home place April 4, 1866, and in addition to a good practical education received in the public schools, attended the State Normal School. After studying medicine under his father, he entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons, at Baltimore, and was graduated from that institution April 19, 1893. He at once began practicing at Clarksburg and he and his brother, Dr. A. O., are in partnership. Like his brother, he is a member of the Harrison County Medical Association and is a close student of his profession. His practice is large and successful and has brought him valuable returns. Before graduating in medicine, Dr. Flowers taught school for five years, and was County Examiner of teachers. He is health officer for the County of Harrison, and has held a number of local positions here. Like his brother, and his ancestors, he is a Republican in politics. He is an Odd Fellow, also a member of the Junior Order and Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is also a Knight of Pythias. The doctor was married to Miss Lelia B. Ash, a native of Harrison County, and daughter of C. H. and Nancy C. Ash, of Wilsonburg. Their union has been blessed by one son, Earl Newton Flowers, born March 31, 1895. These three physicians, the son and grandsons of a prominent physician, are well-known all over this and adjoining counties and are regarded by their professional brethren as physicians of wide information.

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### CLAUDE GOFF--DECEASED.

The influence of a good man will be ever expanding with the lapse of time, and his deeds of charity and acts of kindness will live to commemorate his name and perpetuate his memory. During the many years Mr. Goff lived in Randolph County he was to the people all that is required in good citizen-



ship, public enterprise and sympathetic friendship. He was born in Harrison County, West Virginia, in 1832, and his parents, David and Christina M. (Buckey) Goff, were also natives of that county. David Goff was one of four sons born to the marriage of Job Goff, who came to Western Virginia at an early date. When a young man David Goff came to Beverly and embarked in merchandising as early as 1829, continuing this business for a few years. He then studied law and soon after was admitted to practice, becoming eminent in his profession. He was a leader of the bar of Randolph County until his death in October, 1878. For many years he was an active politician, and at the outbreak of the war cast his lot with the Confederacy. During the four years of the conflict he and his family resided in Virginia, but afterward he returned to Beverly and practiced his profession here until his death. He was a man of brilliant attainments and great magnetism. For years he was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and socially was a Mason. Claude Goff received a thorough education in Clarksburg, and after studying law at Lexington, Virginia, was admitted to the bar and began practicing at Beverly, in 1856. Two years later he married Miss Anna A. Leonard, a native of Randolph County and daughter of Franklin and Lucinda (Earle) Leonard. Her mother was the daughter of Colonel Earle, who came to Randolph County from Winchester at an early day. He was a prominent man, very wealthy, and for a number of years County Clerk of the county. He died in early life, leaving twelve children. Her father, Franklin Leonard, was born in Connecticut, but when a child came with his father, Ebenezer Leonard, to Buckhannon, Virginia. In 1816, Franklin came to Randolph County, and after his marriage here, took the Valley House, which he enlarged and conducted until his death in February, 1857. His wife then took charge of the house and carried it on successfully until 1879. Her death occurred in 1889. During the Civil War, Claude Goff and family went to Virginia, but returned to Beverly at the close of the war and he there resumed his practice. In about 1867, he began traveling for a commercial house in Baltimore, and continued that for seven years. He then began merchandising at Beverly, continued this for six years and then at his father's death resumed the practice of law. He was a Royal Arch Mason and was treasurer of the Beverly Lodge for a long time. He died May 11, 1893, leaving one son, Charles P. He had had three other children, but all are deceased. They were David and Ralph Waldo, who died when twenty-one years old, and one died unnamed. Our subject was a cousin of General Nathan Goff, of Clarksburg. Mr. Goff's widow, with her son Charles P., now

occupies the pleasant home in Beverly that was erected by his father, David Goff. This house was used during the war as a Federal Hospital, and is now one of the pleasantest and handsomest homes to be found in the county.

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## J. M. SMITH.

Mr. Smith is a gentleman who has been steadily growing in popularity during the time he has resided in Davis, Tucker County, West Virginia, and he is now at the head of the Smith Furniture and Hardware Company, of that place, being superintendent and manager of the concern. This firm carries every kind of supplies to build and furnish a house and is doing an extensive business. Mr. Smith was born in Upshur County, West Virginia, September 25, 1857, and spent his youthful days on a farm. His education was received in the country schools and he remained with his parents until twenty-one years of age, when he began working at the carpenter trade through Upshur, Lewis and Harrison Counties. In 1886, he came to Davis, when the town was just starting, and was engaged in contracting and building here for some time. He erected a residence for himself and opened a small stock of furniture on his own account. Later he took a partner and thus J. M. Smith & Co. was formed. Another change was made in 1890 and it was incorporated Smith Furniture and Hardware Company, and a branch store was opened at Elkins. Later another branch store was opened at Thomas, but latterly Mr. Smith has discontinued all but the store at this place. This firm carries a stock of goods valued at about \$12,000, and the annual sales amount to about \$45,000. Mr. Smith has given his entire attention to his hardware and furniture business, and has met with good success. He owns a fine dwelling and numerous store buildings. Most of his property has been accumulated since locating here, at a time when there were but ten houses in the place and the population did not exceed 150. Previous to coming here in the Fall of 1884, he married and his first housekeeping was done here. His parents, Perry G. and Lucinda (Queen) Smith, were both natives of this State. The grandfather, Jonas Smith, was a native Virginian, but the great-grandfather came from England. The original Smith family was of Scotch-English origin. The great-grandfather married into the Hacker family, one of the oldest families of West Virginia. This family

(Hacker) took part in the Indian warfare of those days and a female member of the family was scalped and left for dead. She revived, however, married and reared a family. Mr. Smith's ancestors assisted in driving out the wild animals and still wilder redmen, and contributed their share toward the development of the country. Perry G. Smith followed farming until 1889 when he sold his farm and became president of the Smith Hardware and Furniture Company. He located at Elkins and died suddenly in 1890, when about sixty-three years of age. Before the war he was Captain of the militia and army. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Levi H. Queen, was born in Virginia, and was of Irish-Scotch descent. Mrs. Smith is yet living. She is a member of the Methodist Protestant Church. Our subject married Miss Agatha Madge Eckess, daughter of Jacob C. Eckess, a farmer, who served through the war in the Union army. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have three children: Ralph Eckess, Gaskell Glenn and Stark Henderson. Mrs. Smith is an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In coming to Davis she came through the mountains and drove the first buggy into Davis. Mr. Smith has held the office of Justice of the Peace and was re-elected, but resigned before the expiration of his last term.

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## PROF. W. M. BLAIR.

While the life of an educator is generally barren of incidents for popular biography, it is still true that the work of a life spent in this sphere must have many points of interest to practical thinkers, the philosophical speculators on education, and to the great work of educational progress. Years of industry employed in any department of human labor cannot be without its fruits and its lessons.

Prof. Marcellus Blair, acting president of the Broadus Classical and Scientific Institute, of Clarksburg, West Virginia, was born in Harrison County, this State, July 25, 1856, a son of John D. and Martha (Golden) Blair, natives of Harrison County, West Virginia, and Culpepper County, Virginia, respectively. The paternal ancestors of Prof. Blair are of Scotch lineage. His great-grandfather, William Blair, was educated for a Presbyterian minister, but being somewhat of a romantic nature, he refused to don the ecclesiastical robes and came to the New World, arriving at Philadel-

phia about 1785. Here he engaged in business for a short time, but soon he wandered to Virginia to take part in the border warfare against the Indians. In 1890, he married Martha McCulloch and settled on the farm on Hasting's Run, Harrison County, where his descendants still reside. Here his five children were born and here he died January 27, 1832.

William M. Blair, the fourth son of William Blair, was born October 24, 1805. He inherited the homestead and in 1830 married his playfellow and neighbor, Asenith Middleton. Ten children were born of this marriage, seven of whom still live. William M. Blair died March 11, 1861.

John D. Blair was born October 31, 1833. He acquired a common-school education and is still living on the farm on which he was born, engaged in tilling the soil and to some extent in carpentering. Three of his and three of his wife's brothers were soldiers in the Confederate army during the Civil War, and all returned to their homes at the close of that great conflict without having received a wound. The oldest of his brothers, James M., was Captain of Company C, Thirty-first Regiment, Fourth Brigade, Ewell's Division, Stonewall Jackson's Corps.

Professor W. M. Blair is one of three children born to his parents and is the eldest of the family. Madison S. Blair, his brother, has been engaged in teaching since 1881. He stands high among his fellow-teachers as an educator in his native county and at present is superintendent of the school in Anthony, Kansas. He married Ella Dix, of Harrison County, September 1, 1890. Geneva M. Blair, the youngest of the family is unmarried and resides with her parents.

The early life of Professor Blair was spent in healthful outdoor work on the old home farm, and his early schooling was acquired in the common schools in the vicinity of his home. Later he attended the Fairmont Normal School, from which he was graduated with the class of 1881, after which he pursued his studies in the Salem College, from which he was graduated with the degree of B. P. In the year 1877 he first began his work as an educator and has continued the same up to the present time, becoming widely and favorably known in this branch of human endeavor. In 1882, he became principal of the Salem Graded Schools, and filled this position very successfully for five years. At the end of that time he accepted the same position in the Bridgeport schools, but at the expiration of one year, he became one of the faculty of the Salem College and for five years faithfully discharged the duties of principal of the Normal Department of that institution. He was then called to the Broadus Classical and Scientific

Institute of Clarksburg, as vice-president, and in January, 1895, became acting president. He has given his life to educational work, is an indefatigable student, and no more capable or experienced educator can be found within the limits of the State, for he loves his profession and is admirably fitted by nature and education for it. He has been Examiner of Teachers for Harrison County for four years, and for two terms has been Mayor of Salem, and brought to this office the same attributes of energy and thoroughness that have distinguished his career as a teacher. He has ever supported the principles of Democracy, is a member of Salem Lodge No. 84, of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of which he has been Master, and in which he is very prominent, and he has long been one of the most worthy and active members of the Baptist Church. Professor Blair was married in 1887 to Miss Dora Boyer, daughter of D. M. Boyer, a resident of Salem. Mrs. Blair was born in Illinois, but was educated in the schools of Salem, under the instruction of Professor Blair, and is an intelligent and refined lady. Their union has resulted in the birth of three children: Hale B., Glenn D. and Wayne M.

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## DR. WILLIAM GASTON.

It does not take long for a man with exceptional ability to become well known in any art or profession in which he may be engaged, and perhaps in regard to the medical profession this is more pronounced than in any other. The prominent physician and surgeon whose name heads this sketch thoroughly understands his profession, and feels thoroughly at home in the position which he occupies. His birth occurred in Lewis County, in 1859, and of the six children born to his parents, George and Martha (Gibson) Gaston, he was the eldest. The others were named as follows: Edwin, Emma, wife of John M. Thrash; Clarke, Laura and Evan. The parents of these children are natives respectively of Harrison County, and Lewis County, West Virginia, and both are worthy members of the United Brethren Church. Mr. Gaston is a wealthy farmer and a self-made man in all that the term implies. He has led a very active, honest and industrious life. Soon after marriage he located in the woods where he now lives, and by hard work became the

owner of a valuable property. His parents were William and Mary (Post) Gaston, natives of Harrison County, both born about the year 1806 (See sketch of J. W. Gaston). Our subject's maternal grandfather, Smith Gibson, was a native Virginian, but an early settler of Lewis County, this State, where he died. He was an extensive farmer and slave-owner. His family consisted of four sons and five daughters. In the country schools of Lewis County our subject was educated and later became a teacher in the schools of the county. He attended the State Normal at Fairmont and Otterbein University at Westerville, Ohio, and in 1880 began reading medicine with Dr. Florent Gibson, a cousin, at Freemanburg, this State. In 1884 he graduated from the Eclectic Medical Institute, of Cincinnati, Ohio, and in the Fall of the same year located on Two-Lick Creek, fourteen miles southwest of Clarksburg, where he soon built up a good practice, partly among the people with whom he had been reared and who had had every opportunity to judge of his character and qualifications, and only five miles from where he was born. He is a member of the West Virginia Eclectic Medical Association, and of Harrison County Medical Association, and stands high in the estimation of his professional brethren. He is one of the busiest of this busy class of men, and is well and fully prepared to meet any professional demand that may be made upon him, and has met with flattering success from the start. In the year 1884 he married Miss Nellie J. Thrash, daughter of Richard and Eliza J. Thrash, of Harrison County. She died May 3, 1892. On the 25th of March, 1894, the doctor married Mrs. Sue Easter, daughter of Perry Wolf. Dr. Gaston has a small but well-improved farm, but devotes his entire attention to his profession. Socially he is a Mason, a member of Jackson Lodge No. 35, at Good Hope, and is Worthy Master. In 1894 he represented this lodge in the Grand Lodge. He is a Democrat in politics.

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## JOHN COX HUPP, A. M., M. D.

John Cox Hupp, A. M., M. D., a distinguished physician and representative citizen of Wheeling, comes of a family noted for heroism and sacrifice in the days of Indian warfare. Philip Hupp, John Hupp, Frank Hupp, Palsar Hupp, and another brother whose name has not been pre-



John C. Hupf. M. D.





served, came in 1770 to the frontier from the Shenandoah Valley, and settled on the "Dutch Fork" of Buffalo, in what is now Washington County, Pennsylvania, but was then a part of Virginia, remaining so until after the running of Mason's and Dixon's line. Frank was shot by an Indian at Jonathan Link's cabin, twelve miles west of Wheeling, on Middle Wheeling Creek, September, 1771; John was killed while defending Miller's blockhouse, on Buffalo Creek, from the Indians, on Easter Sunday, of 1782; Palsar settled on the banks of the Monongahela near the village of Millsborough, and Philip, who was at the siege of Miller's blockhouse, afterward settled in Duck Creek Valley. John Hupp left a son of the same name, who was two years old at the time of the siege of the blockhouse, within which he was when his father was killed. He was born July 27, 1780, and on January 19, 1813, was married to Ann Cox, by whom he had four children: Isaac, Joseph, Louisa, and John C., of whom the latter only survives. The father died March 12, 1864, and the mother, who was born June 7, 1791, died November 26, 1875.

John C. Hupp, the subject of this sketch, was born in Donegal Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania, November 24, 1819. He was educated at West Alexander Academy, and at Washington College, Pennsylvania, from which he graduated in 1844; subsequently, in 1848, taking the degree of A. M.; studied medicine under Dr. F. Julius Le Moyne, of Washington, and at the Jefferson Medical College, whence he graduated in 1847, settling in Wheeling, December 16, 1847, in general practice. The doctor recalls the fact that James G. Blaine was at Washington College at the same time, and proved to be a close, hard student, as well as exceedingly punctual in his attendance. In the midst of strangers, but with a thorough medical education and an undaunted purpose to excel, he commenced his professional career by responding to a call from a wretched hovel in one of the alleys of the city. The success that attended this humble beginning was an auspice of the prosperous career that was opening up before him. During the forty-six years following he has occupied the same ground, the field of his professional labors gradually widening, till it extends now, as counselor with his professional brethren, far toward the geographical center of his own State and into the adjacent counties of Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Dr. Hupp was one of the founders of the Medical Society of the State of West Virginia, and took an active part in the work of organization; he brought chloral hydrate to the notice of the profession February 21, 1870, in a case of puerperal mania. In 1873 he inaugurated the measure in the

Wheeling schools that when a lady teacher does the work of a male teacher she should have the same salary and hold an equally honorable rank; in 1873 he made a successful effort before the Board of Education to extend to the colored children of Wheeling a free school education; in 1873, to establish evening free schools; in 1875, to make German a regular branch of study in the public schools; also, in 1877, was alike successful in making industrial drawing a regular branch of study in the free-school course of the City of Wheeling. For these liberal and successful efforts in the cause of education the doctor was serenaded by his German fellow-citizens, headed by Augustus Pollack, who made an excellent address; and the colored people also waited on the doctor at his residence and presented him with a gold-headed cane, appropriately inscribed; also an address and resolutions expressing their gratitude and appreciation of his services in their behalf.

Dr. Hupp was appointed, in 1875, a delegate of the American Medical Association to the European Medical Association, which met at Brussels, but professional engagements prevented his attendance; was also a member of the Executive Committee of the Centennial Medical Commission to the International Medical Congress, which convened at Philadelphia, September 4, 1876; he witnessed the cremation, first in the United States, of Baron de Palm, at Washington, Pennsylvania, December 6, 1876, in the crematory built under the direction of his preceptor, Dr. Le Moynes, in which subsequently, Dr. S. D. Gross was cremated. His notable cases of surgery include the case of a ruptured uterus, reported with illustrations in Transactions of the State Medical Society for 1874, and extensively copied in medical publications throughout the United States. The complications and difficulties attending this case made it the most remarkable in its character and result ever reported in the history of medicine. The patient survived and is still living in good health in Marshall County, West Virginia. In 1858, he was received at Washington, D. C., a member, by invitation, of the American Medical Association, in which he was a member of the Committee on Nominations, in 1863; Secretary of the Section on the Practice of Medicine and Obstetrics, in 1869, and of the Committee on Nominations, in 1875, 1876 and 1878; and for many years he was Chairman of the Committee of the American Medical Association for his State on American Medical Necrology. His memoranda of the eminent medical dead of his State have been published in the Transactions of the Association, and many of them copied into the local newspapers. He served during ten consecutive years as treasurer of both State and local medical societies, elected annually; is a member of the Historical

Society of West Virginia; was elected April 6, 1869, a corresponding member of the Gynaecological Society, of Boston, the society at the same time inviting from him communications for publication in their Transactions; is an honorary member of the Trinity Historical Society, of Dallas, Texas, and a life member, and for a series of years, vice-president for West Virginia, of the Alumni Association of Jefferson Medical College.

Among other contributions to medical literature, he is the author of papers on "Placenta Praevia," 1863; "Salivary Calculus," 1863; "Vaccination and its Protective Powers," 1870; "Chloral in Puerperal Insanity," 1870, copied into medical journals from the State Medical Society Transactions; "Congenital Phymosis and Calculus in Urethra," 1870; "Opium Poisoning Treated by Belladonna," 1872; "Ruptured Uterus," 1870; "Encephaloid Abdominal Tumor," 1875; "Biographical Sketch of Joseph Thoburn, M. D.," prepared by request of the medical profession of Wheeling, 1865; Memorial to the Legislature of West Virginia on the appointment of a State Geologist, 1870; and a memorial to the same body on the establishment of a State Board of Health, 1877; cases of "Phymosis and Adherent Prepuce," 1877, and the "Diagnostic Importance of Symptoms," 1878. He has also furnished various articles for the Medical and Surgical Reporter.

In 1850, he was physician in ordinary to the Ohio County Almshouse and Ohio County Jail; has been physician in ordinary to the United States District Court from 1863 to the present time; was physician and secretary to the City Board of Health in 1864; is physician to the Children's Home of Wheeling, as he has been since 1873; was commissioned by Governor Pierpont, State Vaccine Agent, January 1, 1863, and successively reappointed by Governors Boreman, Stevenson and Jacob, making a service of nearly fifteen years; was president of the Board of Supervisors of Ohio County, from 1863 to 1866, inclusive, and used the influence of his office in the support of the Union—having paid out thousands of dollars in bounties to soldiers of Ohio County; was commissioned United States Pension Examining Surgeon in 1862, his commission being the first one issued to a West Virginia Examining Surgeon, and was president of the board from its formation until he resigned his commission in 1885, a service of nearly a quarter of a century. He is visiting physician to the West Virginia Home for Aged and Friendless Women, and was appointed February 26, 1891, by the Board of Directors of the new City Hospital a member of the consulting staff of that institution.

Dr. Hupp was married March 1, 1853, to Carolene Louise Todd, daughter of the late Dr. A. S. Todd, of Wheeling, and they have had the following

children: Archibald, born October 1, 1855, of the firm of Speidel & Co.; Amanda Virginia, born October 9, 1859, wife of Charles V. Harding, of Washington, Pennsylvania; Ann Louise, born July 30, 1862, wife of Robert H. Bullard, M. D., of Wheeling; Francis Julius Le Moyne, born July 8, 1865, house surgeon of the Presbyterian Hospital, New York; Augusta Genevieve, born December 1, 1868; and John C., deceased.

Dr. Hupp, for forty years or more, has been a member of Panola Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and also a member of Wheeling Union Chapter No. 1, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. He is a gentleman of affable manners and kindly disposition, coupled with the most conscientious professional rectitude. Blessed with continued good health, he is still actively and successfully engaged in the practice of his profession and the manifold duties incident thereto. His companion of nearly forty years, Mrs. Hupp, a lady of accomplishments and personal graces, is equally fortunate with the doctor in the possession of most excellent health, and they are a noted couple in the community where they have lived and labored so long and well. Mrs. Hupp is constantly interested in church and charity work, and is an active member of the First Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Hupp has the literary faculty to a degree. He has always taken a peculiar interest in unraveling historical mysteries, particularly in relation to the pioneer history of the border line between Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Upon these themes he has furnished many communications to the press of Wheeling, some of them descriptive of thrilling scenes in the early history of the region of his childhood, a species of writing for which he seems peculiarly adapted. Some of his most important contributions may be found in "Creigh's History of Washington County, Pennsylvania," and which have been copied in Brant and Fuller's "History of the Upper Ohio Valley." An additional mark of his qualification in this respect is found in the fact that by the voice of his college classmates he was chosen to prepare the quarter century historical sketch of his class at the reunion held at Washington, Pennsylvania, August 4, 1869, incumbent duties compelling him to decline the invitation, however. He is well equipped with diaries and voluminous scrap books, denoting much mental occupation and energetic investigation into all departments of human interest.

Dr. Hupp's untiring energy in the pursuit of pioneer history and relics found most remarkable opportunity in following up the hunt for Ebenezer Zane's cross-cut saw, with which that great pioneer settler constructed Fort Fincastle in 1774 (subsequently named Fort Henry), at Wheeling. Dr. Hupp

presented the relic to the West Virginia Agricultural College at Morgantown, in a letter to the Rev. Alexander Martin, D. D., president, under date of March 4, 1868, from which these extracts are taken: Upon Colonel Zane's death, in 1811, the saw came into possession of John Clarke, who sold it to Francis McConnell, Sr., who had been a Revolutionary soldier. In the year 1825 his son, Francis McConnell, Jr., concealed the saw in the woods under the leaves near a fallen tree, and hid it so effectually that he could not find it himself. The McConnell homestead was purchased by Luther Harrah, who, in the Winter of 1854, while getting timber out for building purposes, discovered the famous relic covered with the accumulations of its leafy bed, where it had lain for twenty-nine years. Francis McConnell, Jr., recognized the old saw, and it was finally taken to a foundry at Bridgeport, Ohio, where it was heated and straightened; it then came into the possession of Dr. Hupp, who had been hunting for it a long time. It was first exhibited June 28, 1864, at the great Sanitary Fair and Festival held at Wheeling to aid the Union soldiers in hospitals and suffering privations in the field. The blade is 5 feet 11 inches long; length of blade and ends, 6 feet 3½ inches; width at center, 4½ inches; at ends, 2½ inches; number of teeth, 38; distance between the teeth, 1½ to 1⅞ inches. The wooden handles are wanting, but the irons for their attachment remain. It was, of course, of English manufacture, and can now be seen at the College Museum, Morgantown.

Dr. Hupp's son, named after Dr. Francis Julius Le Moyne, with whom Dr. Hupp first studied medicine, and who was one of the most remarkable men of his time in all branches of learning and ethics, gives abundant promise of an honorable and useful career. In his personal character, and by his professional skill and deportment, he has been, and continues to be a source of great comfort to his father and mother. As house surgeon in the Presbyterian Hospital, New York City, he is attending to the duties of a most desirable position, which a score of competing applicants made strenuous efforts to secure, some of them accomplished medical men from abroad. The young doctor has had the benefit of special study in surgery of the bowels with Dr. W. T. Bull, the distinguished laparotomist, and in general practice with other eminent men in the metropolis.

Dr. and Mrs. Hupp have an extensive circle of friends who appreciate their good qualities as neighbors and citizens interested in the charities of Wheeling, especially the "Children's Home of Wheeling," of which Mrs. Hupp has been the efficient president of the Board of Lady Managers for several years. They were strong Union people during the war, and Mrs.

Hupp made it a rule to place the good old flag out of the window every time that Uncle Sam won a victory. It meant something in those days to express Union sentiment in that way in Wheeling, even after the new State was fully organized.

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## DR. ALBERT S. BOSWORTH.

An active and progressive system in any profession or line of business, when based upon principles of ability, honor and uprightiness, is sure to bring success, and an illustration of prominence gained through these means is seen in the record of Dr. Albert S. Bosworth, one of the successful physicians of Beverly. He is a native son of this county, born near Beverly in 1859, and is second of three sons born to George W. and Mary (Currence) Bosworth. Massachusetts was the native State of his grandfather, Dr. Squire Bosworth, who came to Randolph County, West Virginia, at an early period. He had been educated for a minister, but later taught school in Randolph County and began the study of medicine. Later he was elected to the Legislature, represented this county several terms and for a time was Clerk of the Circuit Court. He resumed his practice and for many years was the only physician in the entire section, his practice extending many miles in all directions. He was also an elder in the Presbyterian Church. His death occurred in Beverly in 1870. The family is of English descent. Dr. Albert S. Bosworth was educated in the schools of the county and when fourteen years old began life's battles for himself, but still attended school. At the early age of fifteen he began teaching school and continued in this occupation until he was twenty-three years old. Previous to this, when twenty-one years old, he was elected county superintendent of schools, and when twenty-three years old he bought the Randolph Enterprise, the only paper in the county. In the year 1885, Dr. Bosworth went to Nebraska and located in Culbertson, where he bought an interest in the Sun, and then moved to Trenton, Nebraska, where he started the Trenton Central, which he conducted for a time. This paper was instrumental in building up the town. Later he sold out and returned to West Virginia, where he bought an interest in the Enterprise. In 1890 he began the study of medicine at the Baltimore Medical College and graduated from that institution in 1893. He at once began practicing in Beverly and has met with a good share of success. He is an

active Democrat in politics, was chairman of the Congressional Committee and has been a delegate to conventions and active in the councils of his party. He was first married in 1882 to Miss Julia M. Davis, a native of Marion County, who died March 11, 1885, leaving one child, Stella. Dr. Bosworth selected his second wife in the person of Miss Ella Weisgerber, a native of Baltimore. Dr. Bosworth is a member of the Presbyterian Church and his wife a member of the Episcopal Church. Socially he is an Odd Fellow.

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## FRANK P. JONES.

The insurance companies must always take a prominent place as institutions, beneficent, practical and indispensable to the present state of civilization. These institutions place their interests in the control of gentlemen who have secured honorable reputations, and one of these is Frank P. Jones, of Clarksburg. He is a member of the firm of Jones & Reed, insurance agents, also a member of the Adamston Coal and Coke Company, and is respected in commercial circles for his unswerving honor, a fact attested in his refusal to represent any but the most reliable companies. He was born in the Keystone State, Fayette County, May 2, 1855, and is a son of William and Mary Jones, both natives of Pennsylvania, and both now deceased. The father was a coal and coke man and was one of the first coal operators on the Youghiogheny River, before the time of railroads in that section. He was a resident of different towns in that State and died in 1873. Our subject was reared in a coal region and received his education in the schools of Fayette County. When twenty-four years old he located in Wheeling, West Virginia, and since that time has made his home in this State. While a resident of Wheeling he engaged in the insurance business and made his home there until April, 1892, when he came to Clarksburg, where he continued his former occupation, first by himself and later with Mr. Lloyd Reed as partner. They conduct a general insurance business and the Adamston Coal and Coke Company, represented by them, is incorporated with a capital stock of \$60,000. The mine at Adamston Station, near Clarksburg, has a capacity of from three to five hundred tons, and this company operates quite extensively in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. Among the stockholders of this company are Congressman Huff and brother, of Westmoreland

County, Pennsylvania. A. W. Jones, coal inspector, and W. S. Jones, superintendent of the mines, reside at Adamston. In the vicinity of that place the company own 320 acres of coal land and employ many men. Our subject selected his wife in the person of Miss Minnie F. Robinson, of Wheeling, daughter of George W. Robinson, also of that city. They have three children: George R., Minnie L. and Eva B. Mr. and Mrs. Jones reside on Pike Street, Clarksburg, and are classed among the best citizens. Both attend the Episcopal Church. He is a Democrat in politics and a Mason socially, being a member of Hermon Lodge No. 6, Clarksburg. He was one of thirteen children born to his parents, twelve of whom are living, the youngest being thirty-eight years of age: Nancy, Mrs. Strickler, of Pittsburgh; Lizzie, Mrs. Harr, of Pittsburgh; A. W., of Greensburg, Pennsylvania; Sarah, Mrs. Osburn, of Scottdale, Pennsylvania; Phoebe, Mrs. Hutchinson, of Greensburg; Mary, Mrs. Kelley, of the State of Washington (Tacoma); George died when six years old; William L. resides in Greensburg; Mariah, Mrs. Feather, of Latrobe, Pennsylvania; D. W., of the same place; T. L. of Greensburg, and A. O., of Greensburg.

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## WILLIAM JEFFERY.

This worthy citizen was born in Harrison County, West Virginia, May 22, 1824, and he was the fifth of seventeen children born to Joseph and Facey (Davis) Jeffery. The father was a native of New Jersey, and when about twelve years old came with his mother and stepfather to West Virginia. They settled in Harrison County and there the father grew to manhood and remained through life. Our subject received limited educational advantages in his youth, but he inherited an active brain and a more than ordinary intellect, and by his own exertions became a well-posted man. After growing up he learned civil engineering under a Mr. A. Lowry and afterward followed surveying for some time, serving as Deputy County Surveyor for many years. In 1847, he married Miss Mary A. Randolph, and settled on a farm, but was also engaged in surveying until 1854, when he turned his attention to merchandising at New Milton. After following this for two years he sold out and again resumed farming. During the Civil War he had charge of the wagons for the Federal army and was in the Union lines



all the time. In 1867 he sold his farm and went to Kansas, locating near Neosho, where he purchased a farm. After residing on the Lyon County farm for two years, he sold out and moved to Chase County, where he invested in a large tract of land with some improvements. While in that State he followed surveying and engineering for the construction of bridges, but most of his attention was directed toward his farming interests at which he prospered. He still owns 1,126 acres of fine land, 100 acres of alfalfa and over 500 acres under cultivation and all under fence. He also owns property in the Towns of Elmdale and Newton. In the year 1873 he represented his county in the Legislature. Previous to that, in 1872, he and a son embarked in merchandising at Elmdale and continued in business there until 1881. He served as Justice of the Peace eleven consecutive years, and is only in this county temporarily, coming here in 1893 in order to care for his father-in-law, Phineas Randolph, who is now ninety-one years old. He expects to return to his home and property in Kansas at some future time. Since residing here he looks after Mr. Randolph's farming interests and loans money, etc. Mr. Randolph was born in Harrison County, West Virginia, in 1804, August 7; son of Jonathan Randolph and grandson of Samuel Randolph, who was born in New Jersey in 1738, and who was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. The latter emigrated with a colony from New Jersey to West Virginia, and located in Harrison County, where he was one of the very first settlers. Indians were plenty and troublesome at that time and the families did not make their homes far from the forts. He reared a family of nine children: Jonathan, David, Jesse, Mary, Elizabeth, Margaret, Sarah, Eulanah and Nancy. His son, Jonathan, father of Phineas Randolph, was born in New Jersey, March 2, 1775, and he became a prominent farmer after growing up. He died March 8, 1853, when eighty-seven years old. He married Miss Mary Davis, daughter of William Davis, and reared a family of children: Lurana, William, Peter, Phineas, Samuel P., Hester, Elizabeth, Jephtha, and Isaac. Phineas Randolph has followed farming through life and has ever been honest, industrious and a most worthy citizen. He married Miss Marvel Maxon and six children were born to his union, two of whom died young. The others were: Charlotte, Mary A., Reuben and Chapin. The mother of these children died October 27, 1891, when about ninety-one years old. She was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church. Our subject's marriage with Miss Mary A. Randolph resulted in the birth of ten children, one of whom died young. They were named as follows: Columbia F. (deceased); Phineas C., at Elmdale, Kansas, where he with two

brothers are conducting the mercantile business on a large scale; Banona I., a farmer of Wisconsin; Joseph at Elmdale; James B. at Elmdale; E. W., cashier of the State Bank at Elmdale; Clement L., at Elmdale; Ferdinand W., a farmer near Elmdale, and Maggie, a teacher and a graduate of New York University. Mr. Jeffery and wife are members of the Seventh Day Baptist Church. At one time he was a Democrat, but left the party when Greeley was nominated for President and has since been independent in his views. His father practiced medicine in Harrison County, West Virginia, for over forty years, in connection with farming, and was present at over 3,000 births. He served as Justice of the Peace many years, and died April 23, 1874. His wife died February 9, 1872. Fifteen of their seventeen children lived to be over twenty years old, viz: Elizabeth, Neely D., Lidda, our subject, James, Robert A., Benoni, Tacey J., Mary C., Sophia, Louisa M., Joseph S., Rebecca A. and Thomas P.

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## JAMES H. LOGAN.

One of the men who have controlled circumstances in life and commanded success is James H. Logan, who is a man of advanced ideas and tendencies and is well known all over the country. He has ever been a potential element in the growth and development of Randolph County, and as a representative citizen stands second to none in the county. Mr. Logan was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia, in November, 1818, and of the seven children born to his parents, William and Elizabeth (Crawford) Logan, he was third in order of birth. The parents were natives of Rockbridge County, to which point the paternal grandfather, James Logan, made his way in an early day. The latter was of Scotch-Irish descent and his wife, whose maiden name was Hannah Irvine, was also of an old and prominent family. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Alexander Crawford, was born in Augusta County, Virginia, and both his parents were killed by the Indians in that county. Alexander became a prominent man, and was ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church. He was a man of great intelligence and strength of mind. He was also of Scotch-Irish descent. The father of our subject was a farmer, mechanic, mill builder, etc., and was a soldier in the War of 1812, first holding the rank of Lieutenant and then Captain. In 1827 he moved his

family to Randolph County and located twenty-three miles above Beverly, where he operated the first mill in that section. He died about 1858. He was an elder in the Presbyterian Church. His wife died in 1831. The original of this sketch was about nine years of age when he came with his parents to Randolph County. He received most of his education at Greenville, Augusta County, and at Lexington, in Washington College, now Washington and Lee University, and first branched out for himself as a school teacher, in which avocation he spent the prime of life. His pupils were numbered by the hundreds, and many of them are now eminent and conspicuous members of the medical world, the pulpit and the bar. Later he became quite extensively engaged in the real estate business, and also followed surveying and civil engineering for years. In 1856 or '57 he moved to Beverly and is now the owner of large tracts of valuable land. He has ever been deeply interested in educational matters and is president of the Board of Education. He is a well-read man, is well up with the times, and as a Fourth of July orator has few equals. In the year 1853 he married Miss Mary Crawford, a native of Rockbridge County, and daughter of Robert Crawford. The latter was a soldier in the War of 1812. He was the youngest son of Alexander Crawford and inherited the old homestead on which he died in 1852. His wife died in 1836. To Mr. and Mrs. Logan have been born four children, two of whom died in infancy. The eldest child, Frances Irvine, married Cyrus H. Scott, late State Senator of West Virginia, and died August 5, 1893; Emma, the only child now living, also became the wife of Cyrus H. Scott. Mrs. Logan and her two daughters are members of the Presbyterian Church.

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## WILLIAM M. CAYTON.

Prominent among the young and enterprising men of Tucker County stands the name of William M. Cayton, whose walk thus far through life has been characterized by the most undeviating energy, by a desire to do as he would be done by, and by the utmost public spirit. His parents, Morrison and Susan (Reger) Cayton, were natives of West Virginia. During his youth the father clerked, but after moving to Cincinnati, Ohio, he sold and repaired sewing machines. After the breaking out of the Civil War he enlisted in the Federal army, and fought bravely for the old flag. The children born to his

marriage were named as follows: Lafayette, a resident of Cincinnati; William M. (our subject); Birdie, wife of F. Gehringen at Cincinnati; Thomas, of Cincinnati, and two died young. The mother is still living, is about fifty years old, and makes her home in Cincinnati. Her father, Anthony Reger, is still living, is a large farmer and stockman, and makes his home in Upshur County. Mr. and Mrs. Cayton were residing in Upshur County, West Virginia, May 13, 1862, when our subject was born, but two years later moved to Parkersburg. When the latter was seven years old the parents moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, where our subject went on with the one year's schooling he had already received. When fifteen years old he returned with his parents to Clarksburg, West Virginia, and there learned the printer's trade. Three years later he came to St. George, Tucker County, West Virginia, where he had contracted to take charge of, and run a newspaper, the Tucker Democrat, which he managed successfully for over four years, having purchased the paper in six months after he first took charge of it. In the year 1885 he sold the paper and engaged in the mercantile business. He was also appointed Postmaster at St. George in the year 1885. He followed merchandising until the year 1890, when he was elected County Clerk, and he still discharges the duties of that position, creditably and to the satisfaction of his constituents. Before he was elected to his present position his paper was the leading organ for the Democratic party in the county, and he was one of the leading spirits of that party. Mr. Cayton now resides in Parsons, Tucker County, West Virginia, and has built him one of the neatest and cosiest dwellings in this part of the State, and has it equipped with all the modern improvements. He is also the possessor of considerable land in Tucker County and has made a success, financially and otherwise. He was Commissioner of the Court of Tucker County, to receive bids for the first iron bridge erected in the county, and also for the second. On the 16th of August, 1886, Mr. Cayton married Miss Carrie Adams, daughter of John J. and Angelica (Ewin) Adams, both natives of West Virginia. Mrs. Adams was the daughter of Senator Ewin, of this county. Senator Ewin was one of the earliest settlers of this section and a very prominent man. He lobbied the bill through the Legislature of Virginia, forming the County of Tucker, and was one of the Commissioners who located the county seat at St. George. He gave to the county the court house bell, which still continues to be used. Mr. Ewin was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, which he built at St. George. John J. Adams, the father-in-law of our sketch, followed merchandising for many years and served as Clerk of both Courts of

this county for eighteen years, and Clerk of the Circuit Court alone for six years. He was also a Commissioner of the Court for many years, and is now Commissioner of Estates, settling with administrators, guardians, etc., and a member of the Town Council of St. George. He and his wife are residents of St. George and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

To Mr. and Mrs. Wm. M. Cayton have been born three children: Effie, Edna and Louise, all at home. Mrs. Cayton is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

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## SAMUEL W. GORDON.

Samuel W. Gordon, the very efficient and popular Mayor of Clarksburg, West Virginia, is a man of ability, energy, enterprise and judgment. His career has been useful in the best sense of the term, and he no doubt inherits much of his push and perseverance from his Scotch ancestors. He was born in Clark County, Virginia, August 6, 1843. The Gordon family being established in Virginia by a widow, who came here directly from Scotland, with her family at an early date. Gordonsville, Virginia, was named in honor of this family.

The grandfather of our subject, Franklin Gordon, was a native of Gordonsville, Virginia, and a soldier of the Revolutionary War. His son, John Gordon, father of our subject, was born in Culpeper County, Virginia, in 1797. In his youth he moved with his parents to the Valley of Virginia, and resided there until 1864. He was obliged to flee from here on account of his political views, he being a strong Union man all his life. He then moved to the Buckeye State and resided near Barnesville, Ohio, where he died in 1870. He was by occupation a farmer and was fairly successful. While a resident of his native State he married Miss Susan Cooley, daughter of Joseph and Polly Cooley, who were natives of the Old Dominion and of English origin and old pioneers in Virginia, where all their days were spent. Grandfather Cooley was a soldier of the Revolution. Mrs. Susan Gordon died near Barnesville, Ohio, in 1881. They reared seven children, six sons and a daughter. The latter, Mary, is the widow of James W. Lewis, of Meadville, Pennsylvania. The sons were named as follows: James, who enlisted in the Seventh Virginia Infantry, Confederate army, and died while in

service; Joseph F. married and moved to Iowa in 1867, where he resides at the present time; John D. living in Berkeley County, West Virginia, where he is a prominent man and has held a number of important positions; Robert T. is a miller of Salem, West Virginia. He was in the Third West Virginia Infantry, Union army, was engaged in a number of prominent battles, and is a staunch Republican. George H. resides in Warren County, Virginia, where he is engaged in farming, and Samuel W., our subject. The parents of these children were worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the father was class leader and steward in the same. In politics he was an active supporter of Republican principles. In the State of Virginia our subject passed his youth on a farm and attended the common schools of his day. He was but eighteen years old when the Civil War broke out, but he was filled with a patriotic desire to fight for the old flag and enlisted in the Sixtieth Ohio Infantry, from Belmont County, February 18, 1862, and served until July 11, 1865, being discharged at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He participated in the battles of Spottsylvania, The Wilderness, Cold Harbor. He was in the Ninth Army Corps. Aside from the principal battles mentioned he took part in many skirmishes and was Corporal in Company D, of the Sixtieth Regiment.

Following the war, Mr. Gordon came to Clarksburg and here he married Miss Ursula C. Waters, who was born in Hampshire County, West Virginia, and who was the daughter of Nancy and Susan Waters, formerly of Clarksburg, both parents being now deceased. They came to Harrison County about 1840, where the father followed farming. In 1867, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon moved to Ohio and resided near Barnesville, where Mr. Gordon followed farming up to 1872. He then moved to Virginia and resided near Winchester on a fruit farm, and was engaged in the nursery business until 1882, when he removed to Clarksburg, where he has since made his home. In politics he has always been an ardent Republican and has held several positions of honor and trust. In 1890, he was appointed Sealer of Weights and Measures of Harrison County, by the County Court. In the same year he was appointed Enumerator of Harrison County and in 1895 he was elected to his present position. He has held many other official positions and has discharged the duties of all in a creditable, satisfactory and able manner. Socially he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the I. O. H., and the Grand Army of the Republic. In religion he is a Methodist.

To his first marriage were born two sons: John W. and George H. The former is a farmer near Clarksburg and the latter resides in the Doddridge oil

fields, where he is profitably engaged. Mrs. Ursula C. Gordon died December 3, 1890. Mr. Gordon's present wife was Miss Mary A. Hoff, daughter of Silas and Lydia S. Hoff, of Clarksburg. To this marriage a child was born August 21, 1893, named Helen Ursula. Mrs. Gordon's father was Deputy Sheriff of Harrison County for four years, where he is well and favorably known. Mr. Gordon is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

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## LEROY SHAW.

Among the few men of Preston County, West Virginia, who, while still in their early manhood, have reached a position of prominence in the community, none are more deserving of prominent mention than is Leroy Shaw, the most efficient Sheriff and Treasurer of the County. A product of Preston County, West Virginia, born near Kingwood, January 5, 1844, and a resident of the same most of his life, the people have had every opportunity to judge of his character and qualifications. This is one of the county's old families, our subject's father having been born in it, and the grandfather settling here at an early date. Alexander Shaw grew to manhood in Preston County and was married here to Miss Sarah Moneysmith, a native of Pennsylvania, Westmoreland County. Following his marriage Mr. Shaw opened up a large farm near Kingwood and became one of the most practical and successful agriculturists of his section. Later he removed to Dark County, Ohio, continued his former occupation for some time there and then returned to Preston County and located about seven miles from Kingwood, near Tunnelton, where he passed the remainder of a long and useful life, dying about 1868. His wife survived him but a few years. Their children were named as follows: Benjamin, Minerva A., wife of Daniel Anderson, who resides in Mississippi, John W. (deceased), Alexander W., Rev. Wm. H., Elizabeth, Joseph M., Leroy, Sarah A. and George C. Our subject reached mature years in his native county and secured a fair education in the common schools. On the 4th of July, 1861, he enlisted in the Seventh West Virginia Infantry, and served as a private until promoted to the rank of Corporal. He participated in a number of engagements and was wounded in the right

hand at Antietam. This disabled him from service for some time, but after recovering he enlisted as Sergeant in the Sixth West Virginia Cavalry, Company G, and served until the close of the war. After the assassination of Mr. Lincoln our subject served as Provost Guard in the City of Washington a number of months and was there during the grand review. Afterward he crossed the plains after the Indians and during 1865 and '66 was at Fort Casper, Dakota. Receiving his discharge in May, 1866, at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, he returned to Preston County, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits. On the 4th of July, 1866, he was married to Miss Nancy M. Schaeffer, a native of Preston County, and the daughter of Israel Schaeffer, another old pioneer. Mrs. Shaw was a prominent teacher of the county and a lady of more than ordinary ability. After marriage this young couple located on a farm near the old homestead, and Mr. Shaw has tilled the soil successfully ever since. Politically he is a Republican and his first Presidential vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln in 1864. He has ever been active in political matters and has held a number of local positions in the county. He served as Constable for five years, Census Enumerator in 1880, Deputy Assessor eight years, a member of the County Court four years and president of that honorable body one year. In 1892 he was elected Sheriff and Treasurer and is now discharging the duties of that responsible position to the satisfaction of all. He is a member of the Grand Army and is Past Commander of George H. Thomas Post, and is also a member of Kingwood Odd Fellow Lodge. Mrs. Shaw holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church; and although not a member of any church, Mr. Shaw is a firm believer in the Methodist faith and contributes to the support of that church.

Since the above was written, Sheriff Shaw has had an opportunity to demonstrate his especial fitness for the position to which he was elected. The following from the Preston County Journal, of April 25, 1895, is an accurate account of the matter above referred to:

On Thursday evening, about 9:30 o'clock, a telephone message from Albrightsville, three miles east of Kingwood, announced that two horse thieves had passed through there and were headed toward Kingwood and requested the Sheriff to start with a posse to arrest them. Sheriff Shaw started in a few minutes, accompanied by ex-Sheriff D. R. Jackson and E. M. Menear, all on foot. They had little thought of the desperate characters they would have to deal with and presumed that the three officers could capture two men, when in fact there were four of the outlaws. John Elliott, Cloyd M. Crane, Marcellus Taylor, Bert Feather and Cline Bishop left Albrightsville





Leroy Shaw



immediately after the outlaws passed through that town and followed closely behind them. At Benoni Jordan's barn the Sheriff and his party were met by Bert Feather who had passed the outlaws on the pike near Charlie Stone's and was halted by Jackson. Feather tied his horse and went back with them. From him they learned that they were near the gang, and they proceeded cautiously down the pike past Mr. Jordan's house about one hundred yards, where they met them and commanded them to halt. The Sheriff and Menear walked on one side of the pike and ex-Sheriff Jackson and Feather on the other side. The outlaws were riding in single file—George Smithley in front, William Smithley and George Harvey in the center, and Archibald Patterson in the rear. William Smithley and Harvey were on one horse. Sheriff Shaw commanded George Smithley to halt and Jackson commanded the boys in the rear to surrender. Both commands were given at about the same time, and the officers at the command covered the outlaws with their revolvers. William Smithley and Harvey and Patterson threw up their hands and were seized by Feather and Menear, making no resistance. When Sheriff Shaw commanded George Smithley to halt he answered the command by firing on the Sheriff. At the flash of his revolver the Sheriff fired, both shots being almost simultaneous. The instant he fired, Smithley whirled on his horse to shoot at Jackson, who instantly fired two shots at Smithley. Smithley's shot took effect in the Sheriff's right breast. Jackson's first shot struck the horse and the second one went through Smithley's coat and made a slight flesh wound in his right arm. The ball from the Sheriff's revolver went straight to Smithley's right breast. These four shots were fired rapidly, in succession, and all within less than ten seconds. When the horse was shot it fell forward with great force and threw Smithley violently over its head to the ground, bruising his face very badly and stunning him, and the officers thought him dead. The horse died instantly. Smithley's escape was miraculous, as the ball from the Sheriff's shot struck a pack of four cigarette photos in his upper vest pocket, and fell harmlessly into the pocket below where it was afterward found. The ball had spent its force on the thick pasteboard cards, piercing them through. As Smithley fell, Sheriff Shaw cried, "Boys, I am shot," but continued to give attention to the capture of the thieves. Mr. Jackson, supposing Smithley to be dead, turned his attention to the rest of the gang, who during the melee with George Smithley, were being securely held up by Menear, Feather, Crane and Elliott, who, by Dan's direction, closed in on them, pulled them from their horses, and began to disarm them and handcuff them. By this time George Smithley had recovered and was search-

ing for his revolver, which he had dropped as he fell, when Sheriff Shaw, who was standing over him, called out, "Boys, this fellow will get away. I can't do anything; I'm shot and shot bad." Jackson then caught Smithley, found his revolver and handcuffed him. They soon had the entire gang disarmed, handcuffed and ready to march to Kingwood. By this time the Sheriff's wound was becoming very painful and he was growing sick, and he started to walk to Mr. Jordan's house. He walked about half way when he sank down and was carried to the house. As soon as he was gotten to the house and made as comfortable as could be, Mr. Taylor rode rapidly to Kingwood and summoned Drs. Manown, Pratt and McMillen, who promptly responded, and his wife and other friends were soon at his side. After the Sheriff was taken to the house, Jackson, Menear and Feather took the prisoners to jail, Bishop took charge of the horses, and Crane and Elliott remained to assist Mr. Jordan and his family in the care of the wounded man. All this occurred in less than three-quarters of an hour after the Sheriff and Messrs. Jackson and Menear left the Sheriff's residence in Kingwood.

When the report of the shooting reached Kingwood, there were but few people on the streets and not more than fifteen men all told were aware of the occurrence until the next morning. After a consultation of his physicians at Mr. Jordan's house, it was thought best to remove him at once to his home, and he was placed in a chair, made as comfortable as it was possible to make him, and carried by strong and willing arms to town. He suffered intensely, and the journey was necessarily slow, and it was 2 o'clock Friday morning when they arrived.

On Friday morning when the fact became generally known about town and throughout the county, the excitement grew intense and the feeling against the prisoners most bitter. Lynch law was much discussed and many advocates of this summary mode of disposing of undesirable citizens were found. A great many people from out of town came in and the streets were full of people all day, discussing the affair. It is no secret that desperate measures were anticipated by many who were outspoken in their fears that retribution would speedily befall the perpetrator and his accomplices, and that without due process of law. Fortunate it is, perhaps, for the criminals that Sheriff Leroy Shaw is yet alive, and fortunate for the county's good name that she had within her borders a citizenship whose regard for established customs and laws was superior to any unlawful redress for the dire injury done them and theirs by the cruel blow at the person of their official defender and protector.

Brave was the Sheriff and brave were his deputies. They were engaged in the performance of a dangerous public duty and like heroes they performed it. Not one faltered nor left his post until the last outlaw was unhorsed, disarmed and rendered harmless. For this a grateful people is thankful and appreciative. They did their duty, although the cost may be a life.

When the prisoners were searched there was found on their persons eight revolvers, all loaded except one of George Smithley's, which had one load out, the one he fired at the Sheriff. The revolvers were all new, of thirty-two caliber. There was a bag of cartridges, a lot of jewelry, screwdrivers, wire cutters, watches, clothing, etc. A large dirk knife and knuckles were found at the scene of the capture.

When the gang of outlaws were landed in jail and thoroughly searched, the people in Kingwood soon figured out that the catch was a very important one and that these fellows were no ordinary horse thieves. Their desperation and willingness to fight, their general appearance, their possession of so many deadly weapons, and burglar tools, as well as having upon them what seemed to be stolen goods, were all convincing points of their "professional" knavery and cussedness. All additional information about them goes to prove that theory. As best we can figure out their history, having the Fayette County, Pennsylvania, papers to go by, this set of men are a branch of the once famous Cooley gang, and may probably be made up of some of the followers of the Cooleys. They at least started out upon the same methods as the Cooleys, and if all was known may have had some of the Cooley adherents as instructors. As is stated elsewhere in these columns, this gang is organized. They do not deny it and their set of "by-laws" prove the statement. That they have a chief is also known. They claim their organization is a hunting and fishing club, called the "Wandering Star Order," which proves they are as good liars as they are horse thieves. That they are organized, adds very greatly to their crimes, for from the beginning of their organization until brave Preston County officers landed them in prison, their organization has proven to be for the purpose of robbing, thieving, stealing and murdering. When men so defy the laws as to deliberately organize into bands and take pledges to commit crime, the lives and property of the people are in constant jeopardy, and the existence of an organization in this case adds heinousness to the crimes of burglary, thieving and attempting to kill.

It is believed by the Pennsylvania people that these four prisoners are members of Bill Turner's gang, who have done considerable robbing and

burglarizing ever since the Cooleys were cleaned out. Bill Turner was a prominent member of the Cooley band, but always escaped conviction, and has since organized another gang.

It is thought that Patterson and Harvey have heretofore had no identification with Turner's crowd, but that the Smithleys have been engaged with Turner and his gang for over a year, in many scrapes. The Smithleys live in the mountains above Dunbar. Patterson lived at Smock's, but later at Brownsville. Harvey also lives at Brownsville and is a son of Homar Harvey, who is serving a term in the workhouse now. It seems that one of the retreats of the gang in Pennsylvania was at the old Center furnace and they camped there the night before the Brownsville people began to chase them. They also had secret paths in the mountains which led to caves, where they spent considerable of their time and were quite safe from the law. In all the dispatches from Uniontown and Brownsville the Smithleys are referred to as part of Turner's gang. It is no doubt true, from the best Pennsylvania authority, that there were from twelve to fifteen in the gang originally. Five stores were burglarized week before last at Dunbar and four at Connellsville the week previous. These bold robberies incited the officers to a vigorous pursuit. The losses were heavy, some of the goods being from jewelry stores. The gang having divided the booty, then separated into smaller squads, Bill Turner at the head of one gang, the Smithleys at the head of the other. The Smithleys, for some reason, best known to themselves, decided to leave Pennsylvania for a more genial clime. Traveling on foot being somewhat tiresome as well as tedious, they thought they would for the time being borrow a good horse each. They did so. The owners becoming weary of long waiting and fearing the boys had no way to send the horses back, sent after them, and thereby hangs a tale. Mr. Chalfant, of Brownsville, who was here on Friday, said that a good-sized chest of jewelry, watches, etc., was found in the mountains, the goods having been stolen recently from stores in the nearby towns. He said he had no doubt that the Smithleys knew all about the valuables and had probably hidden them there. So this crowd, or part of them at least, are wanted in Pennsylvania for other crimes besides horse stealing.

The following action of the County Court is self-explanatory:

State of West Virginia, County of Preston, ss.:

At a County Court held for said county, at the court house thereof, on the 13th day of July, 1895, the following among other proceedings were had:

Whereas, Leroy Shaw, Sheriff of this county, did, in pursuance of his

duty in arresting the Smithley gang of outlaws, on the night of the 18th of April, 1895, receive from one of the outlaws a most serious and dangerous gunshot wound, which came near proving fatal; and, whereas, Mr. Shaw has been a most faithful and efficient officer; therefore, be it ordered that this court in behalf of the good people of Preston County hereby testifies its appreciation of Mr. Shaw's bravery and heroic devotion to duty; and that a copy of preamble and order be entered of record, and a copy thereof, signed by the president of this court and attested by its clerk be presented to Mr. Shaw.

Attest:

JNO. P. JONES, President.

J. AMI MARTIN, Clerk.

Sheriff Shaw at this writing (August 15, 1895) is still suffering from his wound, but is likely to recover, although he will probably never fully outlive the effects of that dreadful encounter.

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## HON. L. HANSFORD.

This gentleman is a true representative of what an American boy can become by his own unaided efforts. There is no name connected with the political, professional and social history of Tucker County, better known or more highly respected than that of Hon. L. Hansford, a prominent attorney, and present representative of this county in the Legislature. Mr. Hansford is a native son of Tucker County, West Virginia, born March 16, 1857, and his parents, W. W. and Sarah (Fansler) Hansford, were also natives of this State. The grandfather, Archie Hansford, was born in Rockingham County, Virginia, and was a prominent farmer of the same. He was of English origin, his ancestors coming to this country at an early date. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Jacob Fansler, was born in Virginia, and became a prominent farmer. W. W. Hansford followed in the footsteps of his ancestors and has tilled the soil for a livelihood. He held a number of local positions, County Commissioner, a member of the Board of Education, etc., etc., and discharged the duties of all in a very efficient manner. In politics he is independent. For many years he has been a member of the Methodist

Episcopal Church, and at the age of seventy-two he is still an active worker in the same. His wife, who died in 1867, was a member of that church also. The father was twice married and the seven children born to his first union were named as follows: Pierce, now a farmer of California; Ann, wife of Lloyd Parsons, a farmer; L. (our subject); Ruth, wife of D. P. Long, a prominent farmer of this county; Alice, wife of John Forb; Zella, wife of A. P. Wilson, of Philippi, and Sarah, wife of Jidson Gawthrop, now in California. Two children were born to the father's second marriage: Creed, a resident of California, and one died young. The mother of these children was Jeanette Parsons, who is now deceased. Our subject attended the common country schools, and when about twenty years old entered the State Normal University at Fairmont, where he graduated in 1879. He then began teaching in the Normal, and afterward became principal of the school at Fetterman. Still later he was principal of the schools at Piedmont, but in 1879 began reading law under Mr. Boggess, of Clarksburg, and was admitted to the bar in January, 1882. For two years following he practiced law at St. George, Tucker County, and then went to Charlottesville University of Virginia, where he took a course in the law school, completing his course there. Since that time he has practiced in Tucker County and has also speculated in real estate to some extent. In both his profession and in his business ventures he has met with unusual success and is the owner of a good property at St. George, and also fine property at Parsons. Mr. Hansford was one of the principal agitators for the removal of the county seat to Parsons, was successful and now resides in that thriving city. He has been the local attorney for the West Virginia Central Railroad ever since it has been running and is also attorney for the Dry Fork Railroad. Mr. Hansford has been council for several local corporations, Glenboom County and others, and is progressive and enterprising. Politically, he is a Democrat and has held many prominent positions: was Mayor of St. George, a member of the Town Council, examined on the School Board, and has been active in all matters pertaining to the interests of his town and county. In 1892 he represented his county in the Legislature and is now serving his second term. He was the author of a labor lien law, also a law requiring all corporations to file annual statements of their capital and their business in full that the public might know the standing of such corporations. His first struggle in the first session was against the appropriation bill and he succeeded in defeating that bill. Mr. Hansford was chairman of the Democratic caucus and was active in advocating Democratic principles. On the 24th of August, 1892, he mar-



ried Miss Mary A. Wamsley, daughter of Andrew M. Wamsley, a native of Virginia, who came to this State and died here, leaving a large estate. Mr. and Mrs. Hansford are the parents of one child, William L., who is now a bright little fellow eighteen months old.

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## J. H. SHAFFER.

A well-kept hostelry is that of which J. H. Shaffer is the host, and this establishment would without doubt have been a favorite stopping place with the man who "found his warmest welcome at an inn." For the past twenty-two years Mr. Shaffer has been engaged in the hotel business at Aurora, a sure index of the standing of his house and his popularity as an hotel man. He was born in the vicinity of Aurora, November 13, 1827, a son of Jacob and Rosanna (Isenhardt) Shaffer, natives respectively of West Virginia and Maryland. The paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, John Adam Shaffer, was a native German, but decided to seek his fortune in America, and was one of the first settlers of Preston County, for here he took up his abode about 1796. Upon first coming to this country he resided for some years in Maryland, and after locating in Preston County, West Virginia (then Virginia), he was appointed Postmaster of the German settlement, now Aurora, and ably filled the position for some time. He opened up a large farm and was a successful and prosperous farmer. His son Jacob was born on this farm in 1803, and while growing up learned the wheelwright's trade at Cumberland, and there after a time was married. After his marriage he located in Aurora, where he began working at his trade in the chair-making industry, a business which grew to extensive proportions and became very profitable. He finally moved to Grant County, West Virginia, later to Maryland, but he finally returned to Aurora, and here spent the last years of his life, dying about 1885. His wife passed away in 1873, after which he married again. He was an active member of the Methodist Church, and although he served four years as Justice of the Peace in this section, he was by no means an official aspirant. His family consisted of six sons and two daughters: J. H.; Jacob R., a substantial farmer of Carroll County, Missouri;

William F., who died at the age of twenty-three years; Mary Ann, who was twice married, first to John Baker and after his death to George McDonald (both are deceased); Daniel, who resides near Mount Storm, Grant County, West Virginia; Martha is the wife of Alexander Kelsminer of Garrett County, Maryland; David H., who was a Union soldier during the great strife between the North and South, and died while a prisoner of war at Richmond, Virginia, and Thomas J., a substantial farmer of Preston County. J. H. Shaffer, while growing up in Preston County, learned the wheelwright and cabinet maker's trade, which business he followed for some years, and at the same time did considerable contracting and building and carpenter and joiner's work. In 1865 Mr. Shaffer turned his attention to merchandising here, and for eleven years was one of the foremost and most successful business men of the place.

In 1876 he engaged in the hotel business, and has continued this with marked success up to the present time. He keeps a summer resort hotel and has accommodations for two hundred guests, his average during the summer months amounting to about one hundred and fifty. He has two large hotel buildings, and his place is well and favorably known and liberally patronized by guests from Washington, District of Columbia, Baltimore and other eastern cities, also Cincinnati and Pittsburg. Mr. Shaffer is a devoted and attentive host, and strives by every means in his power to make his guests comfortable and contented. Politically he has always identified himself with the Republican party, being the only one to vote that ticket in his father's family, and although he has never desired office he was elected and served fifteen years as Justice of the Peace, during which time he adjusted his neighbor's difficulties with impartial fairness. He has been a delegate to numerous county and state conventions. He was first married October 2, 1849, to Miss Anna A. Wotring, a native of Preston County. She died November 8, 1860, leaving five children: Richard M., a successful business man of Baltimore, Maryland; Lloyd C., a successful merchant at Carmel, West Virginia; Olive V., wife of John A. Lantz of Aurora; Loretta C., wife of Louis Bush of Eglon, West Virginia, and Emma S. (deceased), wife of S. S. McCaum of Aurora, died in 1881. November 8, 1861, Mr. Shaffer was again married, Miss Diana Lantz, who was born, reared and educated in Preston County, becoming his wife and eventually the mother of three children: J. A., who is in business in Washington, District of Columbia; Harry Grant, who is in Aurora, and Lillian Maud. Mrs. Shaffer is a daughter of John Lantz, whose father was among the earliest settlers of Preston

County. Mr. Shaffer, his wife and daughter are active members of the Lutheran Church, and he has ever been an active temperance worker. He is one of Aurora's most enterprising men of affairs, is upright and honorable in every particular and is of tried integrity.

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## G. W. F. RANDOLPH.

This descendant of an old and prominent family is a product of Harrison County, West Virginia, born October 31, 1844, son of Jephthah and Deborah (Sutton) Randolph and grandson of Jonathan Randolph. The father followed agricultural pursuits all his life, and was a representative man of his section. He was a member of the constitutional convention, and for many years was Postmaster at New Milton, Doddridge County. In his political affiliations he was a staunch Democrat. For many years previous to his death, which occurred on the old homestead in Doddridge County in 1879, he was a Deacon in the Seventh Day Baptist Church. Mrs. Randolph's father, John Sutton, was a wealthy and influential farmer. To Mr. and Mrs. Randolph were born seven children, five sons and two daughters: Franklin, a Doddridge County farmer; Rachel married Johnson Lanther, a farmer of Doddridge County; Minerva married Granville Davis and resides near Salem; G. W. F. (our subject); Luther, a merchant near New Milton; Daniel F. F. runs an hotel at Salem, and Alvin, who resides on the old homeplace and takes care of his mother, who is now eighty years old. Our subject remained at home until of age, assisting on the farm and attending the country schools, and then was employed in a sawmill. He had the misfortune to lose his first wages, but he was possessed of an unlimited amount of perseverance and industry and branched out again with fresh vigor. In December, 1868, he married Miss Simelde Lowther, a daughter of Jesse Lowther, who was a prominent farmer of West Virginia, but who has now been dead for several years. After his marriage Mr. Randolph rented a house in Salem and worked as a day laborer for two years. He then purchased a farm with his earnings, hired a hand to run it, and he himself entered a store as clerk. Three years later he purchased an interest in the mercantile firm, which afterward became Preston, Randolph & Co., and continued with the same about five years. Selling his interest, Mr. Randolph embarked in business for

himself, and has since been engaged in merchandising. During the time he was with the above-mentioned company he sold his farm and afterward turned his attention wholly to his business enterprises, which have brought him in good returns. He runs two stores in this place, attends to one himself and employs clerks to look after the other. He does all the buying for these stores as well as for one he owns in a railroad station in Upshur County. Mr. Randolph also owns twenty acres near Salem, also owns town property in Georgia and Florida, property at Buckhannon, and owns building and loan stock paid up in the city of Baltimore. Aside from this he is also a stockholder in the woolen mills of Salem and owns a \$1,500 share in a store at Harrisville, Ritchie County. Mr. Randolph is a reliable, widely-trusted gentleman in his enterprises, and his successes are due to his own capabilities and integrity in business. To his marriage have been born four children, as follows: Avara, died when nine months old; Cora, at home; Ruby, married E. O. Davis, who is a merchant of Salem, and Myrtle, wife of John Bosier, telegraph operator at Salem. Mrs. Randolph is a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Politically Mr. Randolph is a Democrat.

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## GEORGE COLUMBUS CARPER.

Notwithstanding the fact that there are numerous pushing, enterprising and wide-awake men in Upshur County, West Virginia, no man possesses these qualities in a higher degree than does G. C. Carper. He was born in what is now Upshur County in 1847, the youngest of eight children born to George and Rachel (White) Carper, natives of Pennsylvania and Randolph County, Virginia, respectively. Abraham Carper, the paternal grandfather, was a Pennsylvanian by birth, but at an early day removed to Virginia, of which State the maternal grandfather, Isaac White, was a native, and where he tilled the soil throughout life. George Carper, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a resident of Upshur County from the time he was eight years of age, and throughout life he successfully tilled the soil. He died in 1884 and his wife in 1886. George C. Carper was reared on a farm three miles from Buckhannon, and the country schools of this section afforded him a practical education. As was but natural, perhaps, when

starting out in life for himself it was as a tiller of the soil, and this calling continued to occupy his attention until 1881, when he moved to Buckhannon and erected him a handsome home, which is without doubt one of the most beautiful in the place. He takes great pride and pleasure in constantly beautifying his property and his grounds are pleasing and artistic. He owns a small herd of Jersey cattle, some of which are registered and are considered among the finest in the State, the two finest being Minlo's Jim, registered February 21, 1895, No. 39403, and Moss Rose, registered February 26, 1891, No. 86225. Both of these animals have points of great superiority, are graceful, handsome and young, and Moss Rose has a fine record for rich milk.

In 1870, Mr. Carper was united in marriage to Miss Melissa Leonard, a daughter of Ebenezer Leonard, who removed to Virginia from Massachusetts when a child. His daughter Melissa was born in Upshur County. She and Mr. Carper are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

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## WILLIS H. WOODLEY.

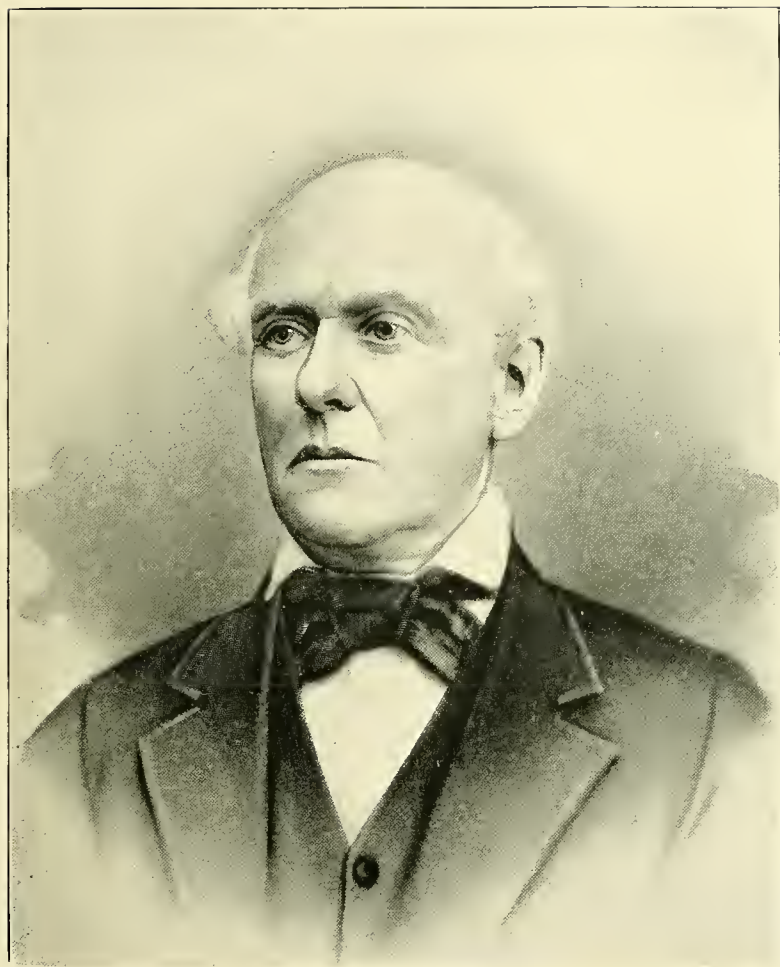
This prominent citizen of Randolph County was born at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, in 1845, and was the youngest of nine children born to Willis H. and Avertilla Virginia (Day) Woodley, both natives of the Isle of Wight County, Virginia. Early in colonial times two brothers came from England to America, and one settled at Days Neck, while the other made his home at Four Square, Virginia. From one of these brothers descended Andrew Woodley, the grandfather of our subject. The latter was born in Isle of Wight County, Virginia, and became a very wealthy and prominent citizen. For many years he was President of the County Court of Smithfield County. The maternal grandfather, John Davis Day, was of English origin and he made his home at Day's Neck, Virginia, for years. The father of our subject was educated at William and Mary's College and graduated from the classical course and also from the law. He then began practicing his profession at Smithfield, and served several terms in the Virginia Legislature. In 1837, he was appointed Proctor of the University of Virginia at Charlottesville and held that place ten years. He was a fine Greek and Latin scholar and a man of much literary ability. In 1847, he moved to Buck-

hannon, now Upshur County, and bought a large tract of land on which he built an \$8,000 manufacturing mill. In 1851, he was appointed to a clerkship in the Pension Department at Washington, and the same year he was one of the main movers in forming Upshur County. He remained in office in Washington until the beginning of the war and then cast his lot with the Confederacy. He lost heavily during that stirring period. His death occurred in 1882 when eighty-three years old, and his wife died the following year. Willis H. Woodley was attending school at Gonzaga College, Washington, when the Civil War broke out, but he abandoned his books and returned to Buckhannon, Upshur County, where he joined the Upshur Grays. He was in the early engagements at Philippi and Rich Mountain, also Greenbrier, was with Jackson in the Valley in 1862 and also the seven days' battles below Richmond. He was discharged on account of ill-health. He served on hospital duty until the Summer of 1863, and just after the battle of Gettysburg joined the Sixty-second Virginia, General Imboden's command. A year of hard campaigning and fighting followed, and after Averill's raid, in which he participated, his health again gave way and he was assigned to hospital duty at Charlottesville, where he remained until cessation of hostilities. He taught school in Virginia, and engaged in railroad contracting in Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania for four years. In 1876, he wedded Miss Martha Dickinson, whose family moved from Orange County, Virginia, in 1849, and subsequently resided in Upshur County for fourteen years. He is at present living in Beverly. Three sons have been born to this marriage: Thomas O., Harry E. and Archie A. Socially Mr. Woodley is a Mason.

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## W. BRENT MAXWELL.

Youth is the great stimulator, the feeder, the tonic of the mighty system and network of commercial and financial enterprise. Whilst age furnishes the trunk of the tree, youth is the verdure that causes the leaves to burst forth and instil the industrial path with new vim and energy. Mr. W. Brent Maxwell, one of the leading business men of Clarksburg, West Virginia, is now about forty-five years of age, his birth occurring April 27, 1850, and although but just in his prime has already achieved a fair share of this world's



*Franklin Maywell*





goods, and has shown himself to be a gentleman of prime ability, honor and conservatism. His parents, Franklin and Frances (Reynolds) Maxwell, were residing in Doddridge County, West Virginia, at the time of his birth, and in that county he early learned the duties of farm life and secured a fair common school education. As the years passed by he developed unusual ability as a judge of stock, and when twenty-one years of age engaged actively for himself in farming and stock-raising, soon becoming one of the foremost business men of this and Doddridge Counties. He has steadily followed up that line, but at the same time has become connected with many other worthy enterprises. In 1893, he was the means of establishing the West Union Bank and was elected President of the same. This institution has a capital stock of \$35,000 and has as good a showing as any bank of its age in the State. Some of the leading men of Doddridge County are interested in it, and its directors are: W. Brent Maxwell, L. B. McMillen, John Markee, Silas Langfit, Dr. L. R. Charter and Scott Stewart. The cashier is P. M. Robinson. Aside from this Mr. Maxwell is largely interested in the real estate business in this and Doddridge Counties, and still continues to carry on his extensive farming and stock-raising industry. He is also one of the directors in the Traders' National Bank of Clarksburg, which institution has added largely to the growth and development of the city. Politically Mr. Maxwell is a Democrat. He is a man of superior intelligence in business, and also possesses those qualities which draw out the good will of his acquaintances. In the year 1884 he married Miss Emma B. Williams, a daughter of John A. Williams (deceased), who was one of the representative men of Harrison County. Mrs. Maxwell died in 1891, leaving two children, Susie and Claude. For the past two years Mr. Maxwell has made his home in Clarksburg, where he has won many warm friends.

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## LEWIS MAXWELL.

It is almost universally acknowledged that a native-born resident of any section takes greater interest in its progress and development than the foreign-born citizen, and this is essentially true in the case of Lewis Maxwell, who was born in Doddridge County, West Virginia, February 21, 1842. His youthful days were spent on a farm, and as his time was mostly occupied in this and

herding cattle, he received but little schooling. He made his home with his parents until he was twenty-four years old, then married, settled on a farm, and began in quite an extensive way to feed cattle; and as he had been brought up to the business by his father and knew all its details, he succeeded far beyond his expectations, and has continued in this line of work up to the present. He has handled large numbers of cattle, and has shipped as many as fifteen hundred head of fat cattle, besides having a large herd on grass. He has also given considerable attention to sheep raising, as this section is well adapted for their successful raising, and it is his firm belief that there is no better country than can be found in Doddridge County for raising horses, cattle and sheep. He has purchased stock in many surrounding counties and in Ohio, and has wisely devoted his time to this one line of work and as a natural sequence has made money. He is a son of Franklin and grandson of Abner Maxwell, the latter a native of Pennsylvania and a participant in the Revolutionary War. Franklin Maxwell became the most extensive stockman in Doddridge County, and was the owner of twenty thousand acres of land in this and adjoining counties. He deserved the greatest respect for the success which he achieved, for he started in life a poor man, and the first work which he did for himself was at \$100 per year; and when not employed by the year he worked by the day at fifty cents and split rails at twelve and one-half cents per hundred. After obtaining a start in this manner he began speculating in cattle and sheep, and did little else but look after his stock, his farming operations being quite limited. Being prominent in public affairs and decidedly public-spirited, he was elected to the State Senate in 1886, in which he made a good record. He died July 4, 1892, at seventy-eight years of age, and is still survived by his widow, who is now seventy-six years old. She was a daughter of John Reynolds, and two of her brothers live in Clarksburg. Franklin Maxwell was one of five children: Marshall, Franklin, Mary Fluckey, Levi and William; and had half brothers and sisters as follows: Charles and Lewis (twins), James, Abner, Robert, Amy and Jane. To Franklin Maxwell and wife ten children were born: Leman, a farmer of Harrison County and a successful stockman; Lewis, of Doddridge County; Porter, a farmer and stockman of Harrison County; W. B., of Clarksburg; Harriet, wife of G. W. Brown; and the following who are dead: Rector, who died in 1885; Virginia, wife of B. C. Bland; Franklin; Susan, and Mary M. Lewis Maxwell was first married to Alice Harper, a daughter of Henry and Sarah Harper of Delaware. She died at West Union, after having become the mother of seven children: Clarence, married and en-

gaged in farming and stock-raising; Fannie, wife of V. D. Wolf, a merchant of West Union; L. B., who is married and settled on a farm in this county; Frank, who is attending school at Buckhannon; Grace and Susie P., who are attending school at Wheeling; Alice I., who died July 21, 1886, at the age of thirteen years.

The mother of these children died December 23, 1884, a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1886, Mr. Maxwell married Miss Sarah E. Givens, daughter of John W. and Martha J. Givens, who came to West Virginia from Ohio. Three children have been born to the second union: Edwin, born August 14, 1889; Everett, born July 7, 1891, and Howard, born August 21, 1893. Mr. Maxwell, like the Maxwells before him, is a Democrat.

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## JOSEPH HAMMOND.

The energy and perseverance of a man's character have nowhere a better field for manifestation than in agricultural pursuits and stock raising, and from small beginnings often become wealthy and influential citizens. Joseph Hammond, a prominent farmer of Eagle District, Harrison County, was born in Doddridge County, this State, in 1822. His parents were Robert and Nancy (Fittro) Hammond. When an infant he was left motherless and his father found a home for him with his grandparents, Fittro. There he was reared, almost a stranger to his father, and as a result he knows very little about him. The father was a farmer, and after the death of our subject's mother married again. His death occurred in Doddridge County. He was the father of four children, born to his second marriage: Elias, Greenbury, John and Rebecca. Grandfather Fittro and wife came from Pennsylvania to Harrison County, West Virginia, in pioneer days and settled on Limestone Creek where the wife subsequently died. Some of his children had moved to Ohio and he went to live with them and there died. He was well known as one of the first settlers of this section, and this family was one of the most numerous and best known in the State. He was of German origin and quite a noted character. Joseph Hammond, the only child born to his father's first union, was reared by his grandfather Fittro, and during his youth received a few months' schooling each year. He was married in 1844, soon

after attaining his majority, to Miss Susannah Ash, a native of Harrison County, born in 1822, and the daughter of Peter and Catherine Ash, who were natives of Switzerland, but who came to this country and settled in Harrison County, where they died, she about 1874 and he ten years later. Mr. Ash was a farmer, and furnished a substitute for the War of 1812. Mr. and Mrs. Hammond became the parents of eight children: John; A. C., wife of G. Payne; Margaret died when thirteen years old; Joseph A., Peter H., of Colorado; Andrew J. (deceased) was killed February, 1894, by a saw-log—he left a wife and five children; Sarah Etta, wife of George W. Elliott, and David William. In 1846, Mr. Hammond located in the woods on his present farm, where he has resided for nearly half a century. He owns two hundred and twenty-three acres there, also another fine farm in this county. He has always been a hard worker, and has the confidence and respect of all in the county. He raises a good grade of sheep and cattle, and is prosperous and contented. Politically he was formerly a Democrat, but since the war has affiliated with the Republican party, but may be called independent in his views.

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## DR. GEORGE W. YOKUM.

The name of one of the oldest citizens of Randolph County, West Virginia, is Dr. George W. Yokum, who is well and favorably known in this county, where he has resided many years. He is a native of this State, born in Beverly County December 19, 1831, and the eldest of five children born to John and Melinda (Kuykendall) Yokum, both natives of Virginia. The paternal grandfather, William Yokum, was a native of Virginia, as was also his father, Michael Yokum, and his grandfather, Philip Paul Yokum. The latter was one of the earliest settlers in Western Virginia, and his son, Michael, was one of the first of this family to settle in Beverly. Later he went to Knox County, Ohio. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Simeon Kuykendall, was a native of Virginia. John Yokum, father of our subject, was reared in Randolph County, and later became a successful and prominent farmer. His wife died in 1866 and he followed her to the grave in 1888. On his father's farm in Randolph County our subject spent his

early life and received a limited education in the log schoolhouse of those days. In 1849, he began the study of medicine with Dr. William Biggs, and in 1853 and 1854 attended lectures at Jefferson College, Philadelphia. In May, 1854, he began practicing, and in 1859 located in Beverly, where he has since been in practice. He is well read and well posted on all matters relating to his profession, and his skill and success in his chosen calling is well known in this and adjoining counties. In the year 1858 he married Miss Mary C. Ward, a native of this county and daughter of George W. Ward, also of this county. Her grandfather, Levi Ward, was also born in this county or else came here when but a boy, and was in the War of 1812 under Gen. Harrison on the western frontier. This is one of the old and much-respected families of the county, and Levi Ward was Sheriff of the same in 1840. Our subject has been rather active in politics and served four years as President of the County Court, and afterward six years as one of the County Commissioners. During this time the new court-house was erected. He has extensive stock interests, cattle and sheep, and is a prosperous and representative citizen. His marriage resulted in the birth of two children: Humboldt, who was educated at the State University, began the study of medicine and graduated at the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in April, 1885. He has been in practice with his father since, and has a natural taste and decided aptitude for his profession. The other child, Bruce, is railroad agent at Beverly. Dr. George W. Yokum was a delegate to the Democratic Convention in Chicago in 1892. He is a director in the Elkins National Bank, Elkins, West Virginia.

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## DR. J. W. JOHNSTON.

The public faith in physicians and "doctors" is almost unbounded, but it is not deserved in an equal degree by all such. There are pretenders in all professions and business. Tucker County has, from its pioneer days, been most fortunate in the number, character and skill of her family physicians, and among them was the ideal family physician, Dr. J. W. Johnston, who has practiced his profession here since 1885, when Davis was not yet laid out. His father, John Johnston, was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, and came

to America in 1853, landing in New York City. He came direct to West Virginia, and located at Moorefield, Hardy County, when yet a single man. He here met Miss Sallie C. Welton, a native of West Virginia, and their marriage took place in October, 1854. Mr. Johnston was a Presbyterian minister, and he performed his first duties in that direction in America at Moorefield. Afterward he preached at Petersburg for forty-one years and died September, 1894, when about seventy-three years old. The Welton family was of English descent and had lived in Virginia for two or three generations. They were mostly farmers. A brother of John Johnston, William Y., preceded him to this country, and two other brothers, Joseph and David, came afterward. All were master mechanics. Mr. and Mrs. Johnston were the parents of eight children, as follows: W. S.; J. W.; Annie M.; J. E.; Joseph E., a practicing physician of Woodstock, Virginia, where he has charge of the Keeley Institute; F. S.; H. F., and Sally M. The mother is still living and is well preserved for her sixty-three years. She is also a member of the Presbyterian Church. Our subject was born in Grant County, West Virginia, March 9, 1859, and spent his youth and boyhood on his father's farm. He secured a good education under the tutelage of his father, and in 1877 began clerking in a drug store at Petersburg. There he remained until 1880, when he went to Nickerson, Kansas, and clerked one year. All this time he had been reading medicine, and after returning to West Virginia he entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Baltimore, Maryland, where he graduated in 1885. He immediately came to Thomas, West Virginia, six miles west of Davis, and after practicing there for ten months moved to Davis, where he has remained since. He is one of the leading physicians and surgeons in this part of the State, and has the confidence of all. He is surgeon for the West Virginia Central Railroad. In 1889, he purchased a drug store, and at the same time connected himself with Dr. B. M. Smith, with whom he has since remained. However, in 1891, he sold the store to a brother, F. S. Johnston. Dr. Johnston is a member of the National Association of Railroad Surgeons, a member of the West Virginia State Medical Society and is president of the Potomac Medical Association. He is also president of the Davis Hardware and Furniture Company, director of the National Bank of Davis, and is a popular and progressive citizen. The doctor has a desirable residence and a number of other buildings. He selected his wife in the person of Miss Mary P. Bye, daughter of John and Sallie Bye of Pennsylvania, and their marriage took place December 21, 1887. Two children were born to this union: Paul W.,

born in 1889 and died in 1892, and Paxson B., who was born in 1892 and died in 1894. Mrs. Johnston holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church. The doctor takes a decided interest in all public affairs and is a supporter of the Democratic party. Socially he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias.

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## DR. O. L. PERRY.

Nothing strange or singular clings about the fact that health is the paramount topic of interest in all parts of the world. Health is capital, comfort, happiness, life, everything. One of the noblest professions, one of the most beneficial to mankind, the profession of all professions, which, while it is prosecuted for gain, is in its very nature nearest to beneficent charity, is that of medicine. At the same time it is one of the most exacting upon its devotees. Belington is fortunate in the number and character of its physicians and surgeons, and one of the most prominent of them all is Dr. O. L. Perry. He first saw the light in Upshur County, West Virginia, October 6, 1861, and was reared on his father's farm. Securing a fair education in the common schools he began the study of medicine in 1886. Later he entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Baltimore, Maryland, and graduated with the class of 1891. Soon after, in the same year, he began practicing at Belington, and has built up a large practice and has won the confidence of all. He has a decided aptitude for his chosen calling, a profession whose noiseless, yet oftentimes marvelous, triumphs are unknown to the multitude. The doctor is the eldest son of eight children born to Hubbard and Harriett (Phillips) Perry. The father was a native of the Empire State and came to West Virginia, when a single man, married here, and in connection with farming also followed his trade as stonecutter. He served through the Rebellion in the Federal army under Gen. Custer. A Republican in politics he never aspired for office but attended strictly to his business enterprises. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and died in 1877. His wife was the daughter of Edwin Phillips of Massachusetts, who came to this State at an early date and followed farming and stock-raising. In politics he was a Republican. The children born to Hubbard and Harriett (Phillips)

Perry were named as follows: Emmie, wife of George Talbott, a farmer and merchant of Barbour County; Lucy, wife of Jonathan Hathaway; Edwin, now in Ohio; Delia and Kirk, and Grace, who married Mr. Finley and died in 1894. One died in infancy. The mother of these children died in 1887. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church. Dr. Perry is a strong advocate of prohibition, and is interested in all worthy movements. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church. He was united in marriage to Miss Bina Moore June 6, 1895.

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## HENRY G. DAVIS.

Some men make their careers; many are made by them; but the men are few to whom a career is at once training and achievement. Yet this is success in its full flower, when greatness grows by what it feeds upon. It is true of such men, be their place what it may, in camp or hall, in business or manufacture, enacting the laws or controlling the daily labors of men, that their abilities rise with their achievements; that their career educates them, and the prizes of life become the visible signs of aptitude in the great school where men set their own tasks, and rise as their efforts are equaled by their triumphs.

Henry G. Davis is pre-eminently a self-made man. He was trained in hard work and economy, under the influence of a Christian mother, who combined strength of character with parental devotion. His career is marked with continuous successes, and he has won and retained the regard of all who knew him. A man of large means, he avoids display, but is liberal and generous.

Mr. Davis began early. His father, Caleb Davis, was a Welshman by descent, who at one time was a prosperous merchant in Baltimore, but engaged in railroad building and was not successful. He built the little town of Woodstock in Maryland. Henry G. Davis, the second of his five children, was born November 16, 1823. A few years later the father died. The mother, whose maiden name was Louisa Brown, was a sister of the mother of Hon. Arthur P. Gorman, United States Senator from Maryland. She was left with the care, support and government of her children.



She had the will of her race and gave them an excellent training. Circumstances compelled them to be industrious and economical, and they were trained to the strictest integrity. The necessity for work in the family was greater than the opportunity for study. When a mere boy Henry went to work on the farm of Andrew Dorsey, which formerly belonged to his family, and afterward on that of ex-Governor Howard at Waverly. Here he managed to add something to the rudiments of his meager English education. The boy was willing, smart and active, and became a sort of superintendent on the farm. He made friends, and when he had reached the age of nineteen, one of these friends, Dr. Woodside, the first superintendent of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, then running from Baltimore to Cumberland, gave him a place as brakeman of a freight train on that road.

Railroading was then in its infancy. There were no telegraph lines to aid it, and no means of communicating with the train after it had started for its destination. It was thought impossible to run a train during the night. Delays were frequent and accidents numerous. It took practical skill, nerve and energy to surmount the difficulties which daily confronted the trainmen. Young Davis liked his work, and went into it with an honest and ambitious desire to justify the recommendation of his employer and friend, Dr. Woodside. In the first place he attended strictly to business and neglected nothing that would promote the interests of his road, no matter whether it put him to extra trouble or not. This attention, even to small details, and willingness to take trouble, have been marked and leading traits of Mr. Davis all his life.

His willingness to work was what made him a conductor on the road. There had been a wreck; the road had to be cleared up; there was a great deal to do. He rallied the men and went at it with energy and zeal. It was while thus engaged that he was noticed by the president of the road, who had come to the scene of the disaster, and who presently remarked to him: "We have use for you in more important work." He was made a freight conductor and subsequently a passenger conductor. Each new call found him ready. As his energy and willing disposition became known to the company he was promoted steadily.

Mr. Davis was always strictly temperate in his habits, and he had the kindred virtue of economy both impressed upon him by the excellent training of his mother. He saved all the money he could while assisting to support his mother and her family. At the age of twenty-eight he married

his present wife, a daughter of Judge Bantz, of Frederick, Maryland, with whom he has lived in happy wedlock for more than a generation.

From his earliest boyhood Mr. Davis has given evidence of his ability to rise to the requirements of any position to which he might be called. He was always diffident, even backward at times, to a degree that often hampered his advancement; but when an emergency forced him into self-assertion he never failed to respond. He needed just such training as railroad life gave to fit him for the path in life he selected at the parting of the ways. In those early days, when railroads were new and accidents numerous, there were frequent occasions when practical skill, great nerve and indomitable energy were all important factors in surmounting difficulties and avoiding dangers, and he very soon gave ample evidence of the possession of these qualities in a superior degree. Each new duty brought fresh responsibilities and a wider contact with mankind, calling out the latent qualities of the man, that were always handicapped by the meager opportunities of his youth and his retiring disposition. It was not long after his promotion that he became one of the most popular employes of the road. He was regarded as reliable by the corporation he served, as well as by the public, and was carefully attentive to his passengers. The traditions of Captain Davis' service as conductor are still fresh along the line, among the people who traveled on the trains of which he was in charge.

In those days he took little interest in politics, but his conservative disposition naturally inclined him to the Whig party, and he cast his first vote for Henry Clay, the same year he made his first material rise in railroading. Afterward he became acquainted with Mr. Clay, General Sam Houston, and other great national characters who figured in those days. They frequently traveled on his train as far as Cumberland, and then took the stage over the mountains, or left that primitive vehicle for his train when going east to Washington. In 1847, so well had he performed the duties assigned him by President Swan of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company a few years before, that he was made supervisor, a position that gave him direction of all trains on the road.

In 1854, at his own request, he was made agent of the company at Piedmont, Virginia, at a larger salary than was paid to any other officer of the same grade on the line. A few years' service in this position gave careful business training to his natural talent for management of affairs.

Piedmont, when Mr. Davis was sent there, was, as it still is, an important place: The center of the Cumberland bituminous coal region, and the point

at which the road begins to ascend the mountains; there are many important duties for the agent to perform. It was a sort of central station on the road; a relay for all the heavy locomotives that run up the mountain, as well as for the light engines that drew freight from the East thus far. He was thirty-one years of age when he first settled in the little village and assumed his new duties, living in a car until a house could be built for him. The present great coal interests of the section were then practically undeveloped, and he began with the pioneers of that industry. His keen foresight early grasped the advantages of the place for traffic, and he persuaded his brother, William R. Davis, to leave his Maryland home and he established him in business as shipper of coal and lumber for the producers. The town grew rapidly, and the occupations in which the brothers engaged slowly but surely increased. A year passed, when Thomas B. Davis joined his fortunes with his two brothers. In 1858 the little business, started four years before, had done so well that Henry G. resigned his position on the railroad, joined the two brothers, and became the head of the now widely-known firm of H. G. Davis & Brother. The same year he resigned from the railroad he added banking to the list of his business cares. He organized the Piedmont Savings Bank, and was elected its president. No single feature of his career illustrates his substantial advancement in all the walks of life more strikingly than the contrast between that small beginning in money dealing, with the present Davis National Bank of Piedmont, with its hundreds of thousands of dollars of business yearly, that has taken its place, and of which Mr. Davis is the master spirit. The possessions and interests of the Davis brothers were then insignificant indeed, in contrast with their vast belongings of to-day. What was then but a start has grown to the proportions of a great fortune. To-day they count their capital by millions, and their landed estate by more than a hundred thousand acres. William R. died in 1879. The two surviving brothers, who more than a quarter of a century ago began life together by putting into the little business at Piedmont their energy, toil and the small amount of money they had saved from the fruit of their industry, by close economy, have held everything in common to this day.

The war came on and brought its changes to the Davis brothers, as it did to all others living along the border. While it hindered the increase of their business in one direction, it opened up new avenues of trade in another. All three of them voted against the secession of Virginia, their adopted State, remained true to the Union and lived under its authority during all the years of the war. The Confederates once destroyed \$60,000 worth of their

property. Large investments in coal and timber lands, that rapidly appreciated in value, swelled their profits, and when the war closed they found themselves in a position to extend their operations considerably. The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, with which Mr. Davis had retained friendly relations, at the close of the war stood badly in need of repair. Lumber, bridge timber, cross-ties and other supplies were needed, and the need gave employment and opportunity to the Davis brothers. Mr. Davis owned the forest tract at Deer Park, on the summit of the Alleghenies, and the standing trees were converted into railroad supplies by means of portable saw mills. About this time, also, he entered largely into the business of coal-mining, and several mercantile establishments were added to his list of enterprises. Everything he undertook seemed to prosper, and in 1870 he was rated as a man of large wealth, with a reputation for business sagacity already well established.

At the close of the war Mr. Davis went into politics. His sympathies were with the Republicans, and he might have acted in full accord with that party had it not been that some Republican opponents defeated him for the Legislature by getting his name stricken from the registry lists, and an unregistered voter could not hold office. This incident determined his career as a Democrat. In 1866 he was elected as a Union-Conservative candidate to the lower branch of the West Virginia Legislature. He took a leading part in the deliberations of that body. Two years later he was elected to the State Senate.

He occupied even a higher place in the business of the Upper House than he had in that of the Lower. His contest for a second election to the State Senate was a memorable one. His opponent was the Hon. W. H. H. Flick, then of Pendleton County, one of the ablest and most popular Republicans in the State. The contest was exciting and close, and Mr. Davis was elected, though the district at that time was largely Republican. This success opened the way to still higher advancement. When the Legislature of 1870 met and inducted into power the party with which he had affiliated, he was made chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and in other ways was recognized as the leader of his party in that body.

When the duty of electing a United States Senator to succeed Hon. Waitman T. Willey devolved upon the Legislature, Mr. Davis was chosen by an almost unanimous voice.

The salient points of the political career of Mr. Davis, down to the time of his retirement from the United States Senate in 1883, have been: His

advocacy of the assumption by West Virginia of a fair proportion of the debt of Virginia existing at the time the new State was created, whenever such proportion could be equitably ascertained; his leadership as chairman of the Senate Committee of Appropriations during two of his twelve years' service in the United States Senate; his practical work as a member of the Special Committee on transportation routes to the seaboard. He is what may be termed a "Tariff Democrat," favoring incidental protection. He also favored and urged the resumption of specie payments. His best, and by far the most of his work in the Senate was done during the sessions of his committees, where his thorough investigation, sound judgment, discretion and force were readily recognized.

To Mr. Davis, perhaps, more than to any other man, West Virginia owes her progressive material development. He has for more than thirty years been a leader in every movement that had for its object the opening up of her vast forests and mines. His greatest enterprise is the West Virginia Central Railway, of which he is the projector and president.

Senator Davis' large business interests in the vicinity of Piedmont have aided greatly to develop the town where he still votes and has his residence. Keyser, five miles east of Piedmont, was mainly born of Mr. Davis' energy. In 1865 he bought the farm of Colonel E. M. Armstrong, at what was then called New Creek, and laid out a town, which was made the county seat of Mineral, when Hampshire County was divided. It is an important point on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.

The next enterprise in "town-building" was Deer Park. In 1867, as before stated, he bought several thousand acres of timber land at this now widely-celebrated mountain resort, which was then but a forest, and began lumbering on a large scale, transporting his product to the railroad by means of a tram road several miles in length. This employed a large number of men, who, of course, required homes. A town was laid out and houses built for them. When the land next the railroad had been sufficiently improved and cleared to reveal its natural beauty, the late John W. Garrett, then president of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and one of Mr. Davis' intimate friends, paid him a visit here, the result of which was the erection of the Deer Park Hotel in 1873.

Senator Davis is public-spirited and finds time to keep pace with the affairs of his State and the Nation. He has represented West Virginia in every Democratic National Convention since 1868, and is generally made a member of the Committee on Resolutions. He served about a year on the Na-

tional Executive Committee, to fill the vacancy caused by the removal from the State of Hon. Lewis Baker, and upon his declining re-election, was succeeded by Hon. W. M. Clements in 1888. It is generally known that when Mr. Cleveland was nominated in 1884, his friends had two names under consideration for the second place, namely: Thomas A. Hendricks and Henry G. Davis. It was thought Mr. Hendricks would not accept, and when Mr. Davis was approached he refused to be considered, and urged the selection of Mr. Hendricks. On the strength of this, the latter was nominated. Both before the appointment of Daniel Manning and after his resignation as Mr. Cleveland's Secretary of the Treasury, Senator Davis was strongly talked of for this portfolio, and had it gone to his section of the country he would probably have been the recipient.

Five children were the result of Mr. Davis' marriage union: Hallie, who married Mr. Elkins; Kate, the second daughter, who in January, 1886, was led to the altar by Lieutenant R. M. G. Brown, of the United States Navy; and Grace. The two youngest are boys, Harry and John.

Mrs. Davis is a loving wife, a devoted mother and a model house-keeper. She is intelligent and agreeable in conversation, possessing marked simplicity of manners. The Davis home bears throughout the impress of her nature.

Mr. Davis is solidly built, but with an angular and sinewy rather than rotund figure, a little above medium height, with a slight stoop in heavy shoulders that suggests days and nights of hard work; a long and narrow head, well covered with hair originally dark, but now beginning to show the frosts of age, and a resolute face generally illuminated with a smile. His gray eyes have a kindly but shrewd twinkle that speak of abundant good humor and confidence in his own ability, and the nose is prominent enough to have entitled its owner to a Marshalate under the first Napoleon. The capacious mouth, although curving upward at the corners, closes squarely in repose, and the lower part of the face, half concealed by a trim, gray beard, slopes off into well-defined jaws that indicate tenacity and determination. Any physiognomist would set the owner of these features down as a man who combined good social qualities with business push and enterprise, who might well own the millions with which Mr. Davis is credited, and who might reasonably expect the success to which he has attained in everything which has engaged his attention.

He is a man of vast resources and enjoys, next to an unerring judgment, great business foresight, iron nerve, and a never-ceasing industry. He is

often stubborn as well as exacting, but he is always just, and he means more than he says. Socially a pleasant companion, in every other relation of life he adheres to inflexible business rules. His hand is ever ready to help a deserving man, and his purse open to aid charities.

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## JOHN W. MASON.

The grandfather of the subject of this sketch lived in a large, double log house—which was the stately mansion of that era—near the old road from Kingwood to Morgantown, in what is now Valley District, Preston County, but at that time was in Monongalia County, Virginia. Here he brought up a family in the manner peculiar to those days. One of his sons, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a blacksmith. Though industrious and energetic, it was out of his power to give his sons other than a common English education, such as could be obtained in the subscription schools of the county. He had two sons. The elder became a physician, and practiced medicine in his native county for many years. The younger, John W., chose law for his profession. While working upon his father's farm, in his native county of Monongalia, as opportunity afforded, he read, with thoughtfulness and care, such rudimentary law books as he could secure from friends. Later he studied at Morgantown, was admitted to the bar, and located at Grafton, Taylor County, where he has since resided, and conducted a large and profitable practice.

When a mere boy, Mr. Mason became a soldier in the Union army, and remained in the service till the close of the Rebellion. In early life he developed a taste for politics, but never sought office at the hands of his party. He preferred home life and the practice of the law to office-holding. In 1872 Mr. Mason was made chairman of the Republican State Executive Committee of West Virginia and served efficiently for four years. He was eight years the West Virginia representative on the National Republican Executive Committee, serving with entire satisfaction to his constituency. He was the Republican nominee for Congress in the Second West Virginia District in 1882, and was defeated by the slim majority of ten votes. He was urged to make the race again for the same position in 1884, but declined. In 1888

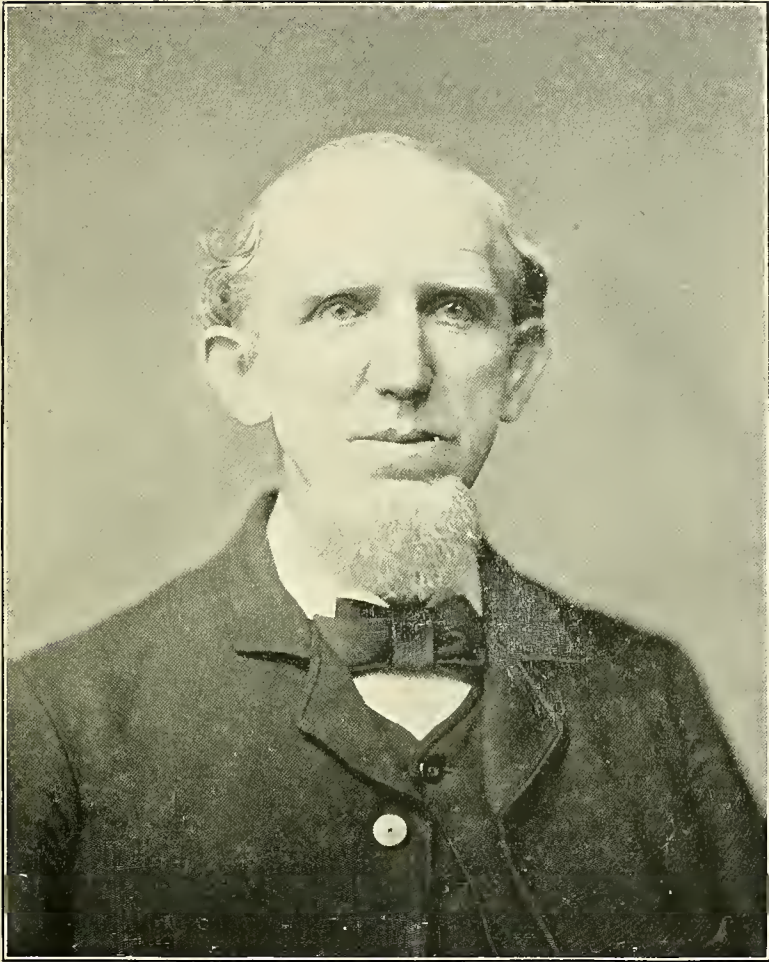
he was nominated, by acclamation, on the Republican ticket, for Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeals of the State, and was defeated along with the balance of the ticket by a majority of less than six hundred—General Goff, the candidate for Governor, being the only Republican who secured a majority of the votes cast in that campaign. Under President Harrison's administration, Mr. Mason was appointed to the high position of Commissioner of Internal Revenue, which office he efficiently filled. Mr. Mason is a good lawyer; is a member of the Presbyterian Church; is a genial, clever gentleman, and is highly esteemed as an honorable, upright citizen.

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## COLONEL JOHN D. RIGG.

Among all the industries that are carried on in any community none succeed so well as the ones that are conducted by practical men. An instance of this is found in the success attained by Colonel John D. Rigg, who has been actively and successfully engaged in the manufacture of woolen goods in Preston County, West Virginia, for about twenty-seven years. He was born in what is now the City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 1, 1833, a son of John W. Rigg and Mary (Dawson) Rigg, the former of whom was born in Lancashire, England, and there grew to manhood. In 1831 he emigrated to the New World and after an ocean voyage of about ten weeks, during which some very rough weather was encountered, he reached American shores, landing at New York City. He at once made his way to Philadelphia, where he secured employment at his trade of weaving, but later made his way to Pittsburgh, thence to St. Louis, settling on the bottoms near this city. He later returned to Pittsburgh, later to Fayette County, Pennsylvania, and in 1842 located in Preston County, West Virginia, and at Bruceton Mills rented a factory and carried on his trade of weaving for two years. He then moved to Pleasant District, where he built a woolen mill and engaged in weaving with hand looms. This enterprise was successful and he was soon enabled to put in improved machinery and up to 1881 conducted a highly prosperous business. He died in May, 1886, at the advanced age of eighty-three years, and left behind him a goodly property and an honorable name to his children. His wife died about 1876. Their family consisted of three sons and three daughters, of whom Colonel John D. Rigg was the





*John D. Rigg*



fourth in order of birth. Three were born in England, two in Pennsylvania and one in West Virginia; Sarah married Martin McElroy and settled in Preston County, where she died; William settled in this county and was accidentally killed on the railroad between Terra Alta and Oakland, Maryland, in 1858; James H. resides in Terra Alta; Colonel John D., Mary Ann is the wife of Joseph M. Shaw, a brother of the present Sheriff and Treasurer of Preston County, and Easter is the wife of James McClannahan and lives near Evansburg, Virginia. Colonel John D. Rigg accompanied his parents to this State at the age of nine years, and while growing up was educated in the common schools near his home. Under the able and experienced instruction of his father he learned the art of manufacturing woolen goods and after reaching a suitable age he became his father's business associate and upon the latter's retirement assumed complete control of the business, which he conducted at the old stand up to 1888, when he built a factory in Terra Alta, and thither moved the greater part of the machinery of the old plant. He has since introduced new and improved machinery, and owing to the excellent quality of the goods which he turns out, he has built up a very extensive business and is prospering in a financial way as well as in reputation. At the present time his establishment is fitted up with eighteen looms, seven hundred and eighty spindles, two sets of large cards and other necessary appliances for the successful conduct of the establishment. Employment is given to about twenty-eight hands, besides his son and son-in-law, who are interested in the business. They are engaged in the manufacture of blankets, flannels, ladies' skirts, yarns, cashmeres, etc., and do an annual business of from forty to fifty thousand dollars. In 1861, Colonel Rigg cast aside personal considerations to take up arms in defense of the Stars and Stripes, becoming a member of Company A, Seventh West Virginia Infantry, and was a faithful soldier and brave officer until he received his discharge for disability June 19, 1862. After his return home he was elected Colonel of the One Hundred and Fourth West Virginia Militia and served as such for several years, during which time he was called out twice in defense of the Union. He has always been identified with the Republican party, the measures and men of which he supports at all elections. He has been quite actively interested in local politics and in 1877 was elected to represent Preston County in the Lower House of the State Legislature, and was re-elected to this position in 1883, filling the position with honorable distinction. He has also been a member of the Board of County Commissioners and has ably filled other local positions of trust. Colonel Rigg was married in Zanesville, Ohio,

January 13, 1860, to Miss Catherine A. Stewart, a native of Pennsylvania, but who was reared and educated in West Virginia, and a daughter of William Stewart. Colonel Rigg has two children living: Laura A., wife of T. J. Picking, who is associated with the Colonel in business and holds the positions of salesman and bookkeeper, and Thomas L., who is also a partner in the business and is manager of the same. The Colonel and Mrs. Rigg lost four children: Ida, aged 7; Bertha, aged 11; Charles, aged 15, and Millie, aged 13, of diphtheria, in 1881. The Colonel and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is one of its stewards. The Colonel is Past Chancellor in the Knights of Pythias, and belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, and is commander of his post at Terra Alta. Colonel Rigg is one of the best-known men of Preston County, and during the fifty-three years that he has resided here not a word has ever been breathed derogatory to his honor, on the contrary he is spoken of in the highest terms and has innumerable friends in the social as well as in the business world.

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## ALPHEUS F. HAYMOND--DECEASED.

One of the ablest jurists of the State, was born December 15, 1823, on a farm near Fairmont. He was a son of Colonel Thomas S. and Harriet A. Haymond. Until the age of thirteen, he attended school near home, then went to Morgantown Academy for two years, then to William and Mary College, Virginia. He studied law with Edgar E. Wilson, of Morgantown, and was admitted to the bar in 1842, when only nineteen years old. In 1853 and 1857 he was a member of the Virginia Assembly from Marion County; was a delegate to the Richmond Convention of 1861 and opposed secession, but after hostilities began acquiesced and entered the army of the South in January, 1862. Upon the surrender of General Lee at Appomattox in April, 1865 he was paroled. Returning to Fairmont he resumed his profession.

By an Act of Congress he was relieved from restraining disabilities. He was in 1872 a member of the convention to revise the Constitution of West Virginia. At the election under that Constitution he was placed upon the Supreme Bench and in October, 1876, re-elected for a twelve-year term. He resigned the position so ably filled, and January 1, 1883, retired from public

duties, the court, by entry upon its records, and in the West Virginia reports of that year acknowledging his judicial ability, his impartiality, and his high social qualities. At his death the State lost one of its most esteemed and respected citizens.

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## THOMAS T. PAYNE.

Many seasons have passed over the head of this venerable citizen, leaving their impress on his whitened hair and lined features, but the world is richer and better for his having lived in it. Mr. Payne was born in Fauquier County, Virginia, in 1814, and is the son of Turner and Lucy Payne, natives of Fauquier County. In 1839, the parents came by wagon with their family to what is now Taylor County, West Virginia, and after residing there a few years, moved to Harrison County, and located on the West Fork. Later they settled on Limestone Creek, and there died, the mother in 1848, the father in 1860. Mr. Payne served in the War of 1812, led an active and industrious life, and was a successful business man. His father, Thomas Payne, was a large slave-owner of Fauquier County. Turner Payne was the father of four children: Francis B., Susan, Thomas T. and Sarah, all deceased except Thomas T. Thomas T. was reared on a farm, and had but limited school advantages. He came with his parents to Taylor County. He was married in 1842 to Miss Henrietta Smith, a daughter of Benjamin and Jemima Smith, natives of Fauquier County, Virginia. To Mr. and Mrs. Payne were born four children: Genius, Amos, Olivia, and Lucy. Mrs. Payne died in 1853, and in 1854 Mr. Payne married Miss Elizabeth Thompson, a daughter of Hugh Thompson. To their union were born four children: Mary, Maggie, Alice and Bird. Mary and Alice died when small. For over forty years Mr. Payne has lived on his present farm of 143 acres, and is the owner of another farm of 140 acres, all the result of his energy and perseverance. He was opposed to secession, but took no part in the war. He and wife are members of the Baptist Church. Politically he has always been a Democrat. He has been a strong man physically, and capable of great endurance, and now at the age of eighty-one years is able to manage his own farms. Mr. Payne's eldest child by his first marriage, Genius Payne, was born in Harrison County, November 25, 1844, and is now

one of the prominent farmers and stockmen of this county. He received a limited education during his youth, assisted on the home farm as did all the young men of that time, and remained with his parents until twenty-one years of age. After that he worked for his father by the year, and in 1869 was married to Miss Amanda C. Hammond, a daughter of Joseph Hammond, of West Virginia. The latter is now living in Eagle District, this county, and is the owner and proprietor of 380 acres of land. After his marriage, Mr. Payne moved to his present farm near Jarvisville, this county, but rented for a few years. He then purchased the farm containing 141 acres, and from time to time has purchased land until he now owns 450 acres, 400 of which are cleared and in an excellent state of cultivation. Mr. Payne acquired his possessions by his own indomitable energy and economy. He has given the principal part of his attention to stock-raising, and has found by experience that sheep and cattle are the most profitable. In addition to the rich soil, Mr. Payne's land is underlaid with coal. To Mr. Payne's marriage were born five children: Alice H., Truman, Susie, Thomas G., and Joannah, all at home except Alice, who is a teacher in Colorado. Truman is also a teacher in his native county. Mr. Payne is a member of the Baptist Church, and Mrs. Payne of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics, Mr. Payne is a Democrat, and although he does not aspire to office, he has been elected to some minor positions. This is the only family of Paynes in the county, and it is a noticeable feature of the family that none of the sons have reared more than two sons for three generations.

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## GEORGE W. WASHBURN.

George W. Washburn is one of the men who have been prominently interested in the advancement and development of Union District, Harrison County, West Virginia, where his birth occurred in 1840. He is engaged in farming and stock-raising, and is the owner of 320 acres, all excellent land, well improved and well stocked. His parents, Alfred N. and Sarah (Preston) Washburn, were born in Union District, Harrison County, West Virginia, and Cumberland, Maryland, respectively. Mrs. Washburn came with her parents to Harrison County when a girl, and was here married to Mr. Wash-

burn. Later they settled at the mouth of Isaac's Creek, and improved a good farm. Here the father passed away in 1856, but the mother now enjoys good health, at the ripe age of eighty-five years. The father was a member of the Methodist Church. The grandfather, Isaac Washburn, was born at the fort at Clarksburg, and spent all his life a prominent farmer of Harrison County. He was the father of ten children: Isaac, Thomas, Charles, Lemuel, Alfred N., Susan, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Sarah and Emily, all deceased except the last. His father, Charles Washburn, was one of the first settlers of Harrison County, and fell fighting the Indians at the fort at Clarksburg. Grandfather Preston was an Englishman, a silk weaver by trade, though his adopted country honored him with various offices of trust. He died in Maryland, and afterward his wife and children came to Harrison County, and here Mrs. Preston died. Of the following large family of children born to Alfred N. and Sarah (Preston) Washburn, our subject was second in order of birth: Cyrus, Marilla, wife of James E. Sheets; Floyd, Ezra A., Alfred, Lyddia Ann, Minerva Jane, Asa and Cayus. Our subject received a fair education, and in 1873 was married to Miss Hattie Ann Linnett, a native of Ritchie County, and the daughter of Harmon Linnett, also a native of that county, and a resident of the same. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Washburn: Ona, Valerious Bruce, Roscoe Conkling, Lora and Clara. Farming and stock-raising have engrossed Mr. Washburn's attention, and he is widely known throughout the State as a stockman of rare judgment. During the war he was wagonmaster in a supply train. Socially, Mr. Washburn is a member of the Masonic Order, Jackson Lodge No. 35, Good Hope, which lodge has annually chosen him their tyler for the past nineteen years. In politics he is a Democrat, the only one in the family, and in religion he is a Methodist.

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## JOSEPH CHEUVRONT.

Among the early settlers and prosperous men of this community the subject of this sketch takes a prominent place. His birth occurred in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, July 4, 1821, and he inherits French blood on the paternal and German blood on the maternal sides of the house. His paternal grandfather, Joseph Cheuvront, was born in France and was educated for a priest, but later preferred instead to be a Methodist min-

ister. He came to Virginia at an early date, became a local preacher and also was engaged in farming for many years. He held a number of local positions at Clarksburg, and was a man universally esteemed. His marriage resulted in the birth of eight children, as follows: Aaron, Gideon, James, Caleb, Priscilla and Joseph, born to his first union, and Thomas, Enoch and Cassandra born to the second. His son, Caleb Chevront, the father of our subject, was born in Virginia, and married in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, to Miss Rebecca Covert, daughter of Morris Covert, who was a native of New Jersey and of German descent. Mr. Morris Covert moved from his native State to Cumberland, Maryland, and thence to Uniontown, Pennsylvania. After his marriage, Mr. Chevront followed farming and carpentering the remainder of his days, his death occurring in Harrison County, West Virginia. To his marriage were born six children: Morris, who died February 17, 1895, in Kansas; Joseph (subject), Elizabeth, Jesse (deceased), was a practicing physician in Ohio; Mary and Benjamin F., who died young. Our subject received his primary education in his native county and when fifteen years of age moved with his parents to West Virginia, and settled in Harrison County, near Clarksburg, when that city was but a village of few houses. He early became familiar with carpenter tools and worked with his father for many years. Later he went to Clarksburg and followed carpentering and cabinet-making and continued there until the organization of Doddridge County, when he came to West Union. This was in 1845, and here he has continued to make his home since, a period of over half a century. At that time he had few tools to work with, but he soon opened a cabinet shop—a friend assisting him in this undertaking—and carried that on with carpentering for some time. Later he engaged in the undertaking business in connection and has followed that for forty-five years, although now retired from the active duties of life. About 1861 he began merchandising and carried this on until 1888, when he closed this out, but continued in the furniture business a few more years. He has been engaged in various enterprises and has met with fair success in all. For some time he was in the saw mill business, blacksmithing, hotel business and farming. He owns a large farm in this county, another one in Harrison County and owns the Grant House in West Union. Although practically retired from active business life he still superintends his business affairs and is one of the most enterprising and successful men in this part of the State. During the Rebellion his was the only store in this place and he sold about \$200,000 worth of goods per year for two years then. On the 8th of December, 1845, Mr.



Cheuvront married Miss Barbara A. Stuart, a sister of Judge Stuart (now deceased), who was one of the leading original lawyers of the State, and the daughter of Edward and Margaret Stuart, of Harrison County, where the father followed farming, and was Justice of the Peace many years. To Mr. and Mrs. Cheuvront were born six children: Edward, at home with his father; Lucy M., married E. V. Dotsan, but since the death of her husband she has kept house for her father; Charles S., a farmer of Harrison County; Jane died when nine years old; Elsworth died when four years old, and another died in infancy. Mrs. Cheuvront died February 27, 1877, aged fifty-three. She was an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was well-liked by all. Our subject is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a non-affiliating member of the Masonic fraternity and a Republican in politics. He served as Deputy Sheriff of the county one term, also held the office of Magistrate a number of years and was overseer of the poor one term. He was a delegate to the convention at Wheeling for the formation of West Virginia, and is a prominent and influential citizen.

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## MAJOR F. HOWES.

This representative citizen of Barbour County, West Virginia, was born in Lewis County, this State (now Upshur County), October 15, 1828, and early in life became familiar with the arduous duties of the farm. He received but a limited amount of schooling in those days and remained under the parental roof and assisted in the duties on the farm until his marriage in 1851. He selected his wife in the person of Miss Eliza Teters and soon after bought a farm near where he now lives, and gave his undivided attention to agricultural pursuits. In 1858 he was appointed superintendent of the Stanton and Parkersburg Pike by the Board of Public Works and held that position until the opening of the Civil War. Later he became guide for General McClellan and was thus employed for a number of months in West Virginia. In August, 1862, he enlisted as a private in the Fifteenth West Virginia Volunteers and was in the Department of West Virginia at first, but afterward was in and around Richmond. One week after he enlisted he was elected Captain of his company and continued as such for two years. In the month of September, 1864, he was promoted to

Major and near the close of the war was brevetted Lieutenant-Colonel for meritorious services at the Hatcher Run fight. Major Howes participated in fifteen regular battles and skirmishes too numerous to mention. During all that time he was never captured and received but few wounds, none of them of much account. During the Winter of 1864 and '65 he was home on a furlough for a short time, but was at Richmond at the time of the surrender. Returning home the last of June, 1865, he was received very coldly by many of his neighbors, who were Southern sympathizers, but he met with no violent treatment. He began farming again and in 1866 was appointed to equalize the assessment of lands in the Sixth Senatorial District. In 1868 and '69 he was elected and served in the Legislature, assisted in making the code of West Virginia, and introduced a resolution to ratify the Fifteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. Major Howes was one of the regents of the State Normal School and has held many minor offices and has ever been interested in all public affairs. In 1870 he was census-taker of this district and also held that position in 1890. During Harrison's administration he served as postmaster at Belington. Our subject owns a fine farm of about 300 acres, eighty of which are bottom land, and has all of it in a fine state of cultivation. He is quite actively engaged in stock-raising and has a most desirable home. To his marriage were born eight children as follows: Francis M., married, and resides in this county; Alva died when twenty-seven years old; Laura is the wife of James Hathaway; Worth resides in the Town of Belington and the remainder died young. Mrs. Howes died in 1887. She was a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1891, Major Howes married Miss Ada Thomas, daughter of Richard Thomas, of old Virginia. Mr. Thomas served through the war in the Federal army and died soon after returning home. Major and Mrs. Howes are members of the United Brethren Church, and he is an ardent Republican in politics. The parents of our subject, Joseph and Hepsibah (Shurtliff) Howes, were born and reared in Franklin County, Massachusetts. The grandfather, Joseph Howes, Sr., was a native of Massachusetts, but the great-grandfather, Thomas Howes, came from England and settled on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, where he owned fishing vessels and was a prominent man. Joseph Howes, Jr., came to Virginia, in 1815, with ox-teams, and the Shurtliff family came one year later. Both families opened up farms in the wilderness and became substantial citizens. Of the eight children born to his parents our subject was the eldest; Norman died young; William died young, as did Frances; Mason died while serving his country in the Civil

War; Eliza became the wife of Mr. Bennett; Luther died when a young man and Lucinda makes her home with her mother, who is still living at the ripe age of ninety-two years. She (the mother) is a member of the Christian Church as was also her husband, who died in 1891. The father taught school when young and was County Surveyor for many years.

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## DR. PETER C. MUSSER.

The nineteenth century will be catalogued by coming historians as the century of scientific invention and discovery, and in no branch more so than that of the science of medicine and its cures. Among the prominent practicing physicians of Lewis County, West Virginia, stands the name of Dr. Peter C. Musser, who has had long years of experience in this noble calling and has attained prominence as a skilled medical man. He was born in Pennsylvania, in 1826, the seventh in a family of eight children born to Tobias and Susan (Crooner) Musser, who were also natives of the Keystone State. The paternal grandfather, John Musser, was a Pennsylvanian by birth and was married to Miss Barbara Grider, who was of German descent. He, with his family, located on the site of the present City of Lancaster, but from there he moved to Somerset County in 1788, which was then a frontier location, and on the farm on which he located he eventually passed from life, his son, Tobias, also dying there. In Somerset County, Dr. Peter C. Musser was reared and in the vicinity of his rural home he acquired a practical common-school education. At the age of twenty-five years he began the study of medicine under a preceptor and after thorough preparation began practicing. In 1856, he came to Preston County, Virginia, and in November, 1858, came to his present home, where he has since been in active practice. He was first married in 1847 to Miss Sarah Kimmel, a native of Pennsylvania, who died in 1859, leaving four children: John, William, Susan N., wife of Benjamin Leighton; Sarah R., wife of H. Kemper. The doctor's second marriage was celebrated in 1859, Elizabeth Bond, a native of Virginia, becoming his wife. Two children have been born to them: James Q. and Dora E. The doctor and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church, in which he has long been an officeholder. He is a well-read and

competent physician with a large and lucrative practice, and is a thorough gentleman in every particular. He is the owner of a good farm, but is not engaged in tilling the soil to any extent. He is of the stuff of which useful citizens are made and has been an acquisition to Lewis County.

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## COLEMAN C. HIGGINBOTHAM.

Prominent in the ranks of the brilliant circle of lawyers of Buckhannon, Upshur County, West Virginia, stands the name of Coleman C. Higginbotham, who has a most thorough and practical knowledge of the complications of law, and has steadily advanced to the honorable position he now occupies in the estimation of the members of his profession, and his large clientele. He was born in the section in which he now lives, in 1850, the second child born to William T. and Mary F. (Coleman) Higginbotham, who were born in Virginia, as was also the paternal grandfather, John Higginbotham, who was of English lineage. The maternal grandfather, Reuben Coleman, was a Virginian and also of English descent, and during the War of 1812, in which he took a prominent part, he held the rank of Major. William T. Higginbotham was a farmer and surveyor by occupation, and in 1848 came to Lewis County, West Virginia, and settled five miles west of Buckhannon. He died November 25, 1892, and his wife July 31, 1871. They were married in Nelson County, Virginia. When the Civil War came up the elder brother of Coleman C. Higginbotham, John C. Higginbotham, was eighteen years of age, and he raised a company here known as the Upshur Grays and was at once elected its Captain. They were located at Philippi, West Virginia, at the time of Porterfield's retreat, and his was the only company that carried off its baggage. He was first under fire in the skirmish at Middle Fork Bridge and was later in the battle of Rich Mountain and Allegheny Mountain. In the Spring of 1862, he was promoted to Major of the Twenty-fifth Virginia Infantry and was in the battle of McDowell, where he received his first wound, and was later, in the battle of Cedar Creek, slightly wounded in the shoulder. At the second battle of Manassas he was wounded three times. For gallantry on the field he was made Lieutenant-Colonel of his regiment, in 1862, and in January, 1863, was

promoted to Colonel, being then but twenty years of age. He was wounded at the bloody battle of Gettysburg, while commanding his regiment. In November, 1863, he was in the engagement at Mine Run, and in the Spring campaign of 1864 his regiment fired the first gun in the battle of the Wilderness. He was in the series of battles of this campaign till May 10, 1864, when he was killed at the battle of Spottsylvania Court House, and about one-half hour after his death his promotion as Brigadier-General arrived. He was then just twenty-one years of age. He was pursuing a course at Lynchburg College, Virginia, at the outbreak of the war and would have graduated in 1862. He won distinction in many studies, but was mainly proficient in Latin, Greek, mathematics and belles lettres. His life was full of promise and his death was a lamentable one, coming as it did when he was in the full flush of young manhood and when he had just reached the highest pinnacle of military fame. The public schools of Upshur County afforded Coleman C. Higginbotham his early education, which was later improved by private instruction. In 1868 he began the study of law in Buckhannon, and in the Spring of the same year he went to Bowling Green, Missouri, where he continued his legal investigations and was admitted to the bar in 1869, being then but nineteen years of age, and he at once began practicing his profession. In 1870 he returned to Buckhannon and here has since conducted an extensive general practice. He was married in 1875 to Miss Mary Ida Day, daughter of Dr. R. H. B. Day, and to them five children have been given: Mary F., Jessie W., Lulu C., Lottie Lee and Ida Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Higginbotham are members of the Episcopal Church and socially he is a member of the Blue Lodge at Buckhannon and Commandery and Chapter at Weston of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. Mr. Higginbotham is in good circumstances and owns some good farming land.

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## ALLEN STEWART.

One of the beautiful farms in Clark District, Harrison County, West Virginia, richly cultivated and neatly kept, is that which is owned and supervised by Allen Stewart. This substantial citizen was born in Monongalia County, West Virginia, in 1829, son of John and Elizabeth (Keiser) Stewart, the former a native of Monongalia County, born in 1801, and the latter

of Fayette County, Pennsylvania, about 1806. When but a small girl Mrs. Stewart went with her parents to Monongalia County, where she subsequently married Mr. Stewart, and with him moved to Barbour County when our subject was about seven years of age. About forty years later they broke up housekeeping and passed the remainder of their days with their children, the father dying September 3, 1889, and the mother the same day and month of 1893. They were Dunkards in their religious views, and Mr. Stewart was a Democrat in politics. Farming was his life-long occupation. He was the son of William and Elizabeth Stewart. William Stewart was born in Scotland and when quite a young man came with his parents to America. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis. He was a farmer, and was married in Pennsylvania, whither he removed to Monongalia County, West Virginia, where he was one of the first settlers. His father, Charles Stewart, settled at York, Pennsylvania, and followed his trade of shoemaker. He was making himself a pair of shoes preparatory to joining in the struggle for independence when he sickened and died. Our subject's maternal grandfather, John Keiser, was born in Baltimore, Maryland, but after his marriage removed to Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, and thence to Monongalia County, West Virginia. Later he went to Fayette County, Pennsylvania, and there died when our subject was about twelve years old. He was a millwright by trade. Our subject was the eldest of eight children born to his parents: Hannah, John J., William E., Elizabeth, Henry, Nancy and James Q. Allen Stewart's youth differed in one particular from most country boys' of those early days. He received a fair education in the country schools. In the year 1858 he was married in Taylor County to Miss Rebecca Jane McFarland, daughter of Joseph and Mary McFarland, of Taylor County. Mr. McFarland, who was a farmer all his life, died in Morgantown and his wife in Taylor County. Mrs. Stewart was born in Monongalia County and died June 28, 1894, in full communion with the Methodist Church. The ten children born to Mr. and Mrs. Stewart were named as follows: John William died when five years old; James Edgar, Elizabeth died when three years old; Ella, wife of J. Mac. Bennett; Cora, wife of Elsworth Colebanks, of Taylor County; Hannah, Emma, Ida, Icy, and Laura. After his marriage, Mr. Stewart resided in Taylor County until 1865, and then after residing for some time in Harrison, then Doddridge, Taylor and Ritchie Counties, permanently settled in Harrison County, where he owns 449 acres on West Fork River, two and one-half miles above Clarksburg. He also owns 203 acres in Barbour and other tracts of land

in this county. When a young man he served an apprenticeship at the millwright trade and after marriage followed this for a number of years. Afterward he drifted into the lumber business, which netted him good returns, and was the foundation of his present enviable position. For a number of years now he has given his time and attention to farming and stock-raising and has one of the finest places in the county. He is a self-made man and has gained all his property by the honest sweat of his brow. The views of the Democratic party have been his since old enough to vote, and he voted for Franklin Pierce, in 1852.

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## WESLEY POST.

Wesley Post, owner and proprietor of West Milford Roller Mills, is a man thoroughly capable of carrying on this flourishing enterprise. He was born in Harrison county in 1855 and is the youngest of five sons born to Enoch and Edith (Lynch) Post, both natives of Harrison county. The other children were named as follows: Isaac L., Austin A., Hiram and George T. The grandfather, George Post, came from Germany, as did also the great grandfather. George Post had learned the blacksmith trade in his native country, and after settling in America followed that in connection with farming. He was a man of more than ordinary ability, and by his uprightness and geniality won many friends. To his marriage with Miss Elizabeth Peterson were born these children: Abram, George, Eva, Jacob, Elizabeth, Mary, Isaac and Enoch. The last named became a successful farmer and stock raiser, handling a great deal of stock, and by his thrift and perseverance became one of the wealthiest men in the county, owning at one time fourteen hundred acres, which he has divided among his boys. He has long passed the allotted age of man, three score years and ten, being now in his eighty-first year, but he is well preserved both in mind and body. Like his father he is well respected and has a host of warm friends. His wife, Edith Lynch, was the daughter of Isaac Lynch, a native Virginian, who came to Harrison County when Indians were plentiful. Mr. Lynch was a farmer and became the owner of a number of slaves. Mrs. Post died January 21, 1874, when fifty-nine years old. She was a member of the United Brethren Church. Wesley Post attended the country schools of his vicinity during his youth, assisted on the

home place, and in 1877, when twenty-one years old, married Miss Ruhamey Burnside, a native of Harrison County and the daughter of James and Rebecca Burnside, natives of the same county. The Burnside family is one of the early and prominent ones of the county and came originally from Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. Burnside passed their entire life in this county, the former dying in 1890 and the latter in 1895. After his marriage Mr. Post farmed almost exclusively until 1882, when he embarked in merchandising at West Milford and continued this until 1885. He then purchased the mill at that place for eight thousand dollars, and soon after sold a half interest to T. M. Smith, the firm becoming Post & Smith, and continuing as such until 1888. The mill was then destroyed by the great flood of July, that year, and afterward Mr. Smith's interest was sold, Mr. Post being the purchaser. He soon rebuilt, and afterward sold a half interest to John R. Lynch, the firm becoming Post & Lynch. In 1893, Mr. Post became sole owner. He has put in the roller process, and improved it in every way, making it one of the best mills in the county. He has three sets of double rollers with a capacity of fifty barrels per day, water power, and has a good saw-mill attached. Mr. Post is a live, energetic business man, and is well liked as a gentleman of honorable principle and thorough integrity. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, West Milford Lodge No. 150, and is Noble Grand in the same. Politically he is a Democrat, and cast his first presidential vote for Tilden in 1876. In 1888, he was the Democratic candidate for Sheriff of Harrison County, and although the Republicans had a majority of about four hundred votes in the county, he was defeated by only thirty-two votes. He and Mrs. Post are members of the United Brethren Church.

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## DR. CHARLES FREDERICK ULRICH.

In the profession of medicine, as in every department of human endeavor, it is the man of strong personality and of original thought, who is the leader in progress. The great mass of every profession and occupation is made up of those who, never aspiring to lead, never seeking to add to the sum total of knowledge, are content to follow the lead of others, unen-





C. F. Ulrich



lightened and unenlightening, through easy and uneventful careers. A progressive and uniformly successful practitioner and one who may be said to be at the head of his profession, is Dr. Charles F. Ulrich, who has been a resident of Wheeling many years. He was born in Germany, August 28, 1827, and in 1837, when about ten years old, came with his parents to this country. The father, Karl Frederick Ulrich, came from Saxony, Germany, in 1837, accompanied by his wife, Frederika Wilhelmina (Haecker) Ulrich, and five children, leaving the two eldest ones in Germany. He followed his regular calling, cabinet-making and dealing in furniture. He was a man of remarkable ingenuity, being quite skillful in wood-carving and any kind of wood-work. He left behind him in Germany his oldest son, William, and his oldest daughter, Wilhelmina. The former afterward came to America, and engaged in the calling of music teacher, but died at an early age. The latter married a merchant and gave birth to five children, the eldest of whom, Hugo Bier, is now Assistant Secretary of the Minister of War in the German Empire, and resides in Berlin. Mr. Ulrich's other children were Charles F., the subject of this sketch; Robert, a contractor and builder, who died in 1887; Richard, a teacher, who lost his life in the Confederate army; Emma, who married a minister of the Gospel, and Anna, wife of an oil merchant. The latter possesses decided musical talent, and has four daughters who are becoming distinguished as musicians. One daughter, Leonora, died soon after coming to America. Dr. C. F. Ulrich grew to manhood in Wheeling and vicinity, graduating from Bethany College in 1846, and then engaged in teaching for sixteen years; three years of this time he was Professor of Ancient and Modern Languages in Burritt College, Tennessee, and four years adjunct professor in Kentucky University. His first practice of medicine was as surgeon in a Kentucky regiment in the War of the Rebellion, and he is now a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He is also a member of the Medical Society of Ohio County, in which he has served as secretary, treasurer and president; of the Medical Society of West Virginia, in which he has served as vice-president; of the American Medical Association, at whose meetings he has read a number of papers; of the American Public Health Association. He has written much for the public print on sanitary questions, having always taken great interest in that branch of medicine. He has served a term in the Upper Branch of the Wheeling City Council. After returning from a prolonged European tour, he was elected a member of the Board of Education, of which body he is now president, having always

taken a deep interest in education. He is president of the German Pioneer Society, and, speaking English and German with equal fluency, is regarded as the chief orator of that association. He is also a prominent member and ex-president of the Literary Section of the Arion, another German Society. At present he is medical director of the Provident Life Insurance Company. Dr. Ulrich is a whole-souled, warm-hearted, and most agreeable man to meet, and has a host of warm friends in this part of the State. He was married to Miss M. Ellen Lacy, daughter of a prominent tobacco planter of the South, and to them were born these children: J. Clarence, chief engineer and superintendent of the irrigating canal system, of Colorado, headquarters at Denver, and he has been ten or eleven years in the business; Mrs. R. M. Gilleland, of Ohio; Carrie S., at home with the father, is an artist of much ability, and attends the Art School in New York City; and Claudia, the youngest, is in school. Dr. Ulrich is a member of several other societies, and is prominent in all matters of moment.

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## R. J. CRISS.

It would be difficult to conceive of an industry which occupies a more important standing in the great business rush of a city than the drug business. The drug store is a necessity that no community can afford to ignore, and as a result we point to R. J. Criss, whose fine store is one of the ornaments and necessities of Clarksburg. Mr. Criss is a native of this city, born August 30, 1849, and son of Robert F. and Elizabeth (Jackson) Criss, both natives of Harrison County, West Virginia. The grandparents on both sides, Michael Criss and William Jackson, were both pioneers of this county, and for many years representative citizens. The schools of Clarksburg afforded our subject excellent educational facilities and he improved them fully. When but a boy he entered the drug store of Dr. J. M. Bancock, and since 1862 has been in the drug business. In 1870 he branched out in this line for himself, and since then has given such close personal attention to all the details of his work that he has never made a mistake. He is a reliable, widely-trusted gentleman in his profession, and his success is due to his own capabilities and integrity in business. He is

the oldest druggist in the city, having followed the business for thirty-three years. Mr. Criss was married in Clarksburg to Miss Alice Pickerell, of a pioneer family of Ohio. She died in 1882 leaving four children: Jackson, Ernest, Robert and Lawrence. The latter died in 1889 when ten years old. The eldest son is in the drug business with his father. In politics Mr. Criss is a Democrat. He was one of a family of ten children, as follows: Rose, Alice, Mary, (subject), Benjamin, and several others who died young. Our subject and Alice are the only ones now living. The father of these children died in 1861 and the mother in 1860. He was a Whig at an early day.

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## DAVID P. MORGAN, M. D.

Among the prominent and able physicians of the State, noted for his skill in relieving the pains and ailments to which the human family is heir, is Dr. David P. Morgan, who possesses far more than the share of ability with which the average man is endowed. He has won his enviable position in the medical profession by the exercise of the talent with which nature endowed him, allied to a love of the calling and earnest application, and few can conscientiously accept the praise which he so well merits. He is a member of a distinguished West Virginia family, exceptionally well known in this section of the State, members of which did much to bring about the present advanced state of civilization and to make West Virginia the magnificent commonwealth that it now is. To do this they laid low the monarch of the forest, fought savage beasts and the no less savage red man, and endured hardships and privations of which the present generation know nothing. The first of the family to come to this section was David Morgan, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, in 1770, being accompanied by a party of emigrants, and settled in the vicinity of Morgantown. In 1779, he and his family were to be found living in Prickett's Fort as a protection against the Indians who were numerous and hostile, and many incidents of much interest are told of his encounters with them. On one occasion he sent his son, Stephen, and a daughter, Sarah, to feed some stock, as he was ill, and while they were gone he dreamed that they had been scalped and was so disturbed by the dream that he rose, seized his rifle and

started after them. As he neared his children he perceived two Indians, who were skulking behind trees intent on their capture, and Mr. Morgan spoke to his children in a careless manner, telling them of their danger and to run to a ford near by, which command they obeyed. When the Indians perceived the children running they started in pursuit, but upon Mr. Morgan showing himself they took shelter behind a tree. Mr. Morgan then sought safety in flight, but was pursued, and owing to the fact that he was advanced in years and could not run fast they soon gained on him, and when he turned to face them they again sought shelter behind trees. He did the same, and taking advantage of an incautious moment when one of the Indians had exposed himself shot him but not fatally. The Indian, fearing death at the hands of his enemy, stabbed himself and fell dead. Mr. Morgan again took flight and as his remaining pursuer was about to shoot him jumped aside and the ball passed him. The two men closed, and a hard hand-to-hand conflict ensued, in which Mr. Morgan received a blow from a tomakawk. Mr. Morgan succeeded in throwing his adversary, but the latter soon turned him, and was feeling for his knife when Mr. Morgan succeeded in getting the Indian's fingers in his mouth and while thus holding him managed to secure the knife himself and with it succeeded in dispatching the red man. This is merely one of his many encounters. This occurred on the Monongahela River, and a monument was erected there in his honor. He was of Welsh descent, and is supposed to be related to Daniel Morgan, who was a General in the Revolutionary War. His life was spent on a farm fourteen or fifteen miles from Morgantown, where he reared a large family and through great energy became possessed of a comfortable competency. His son, Morgan Morgan, was born in Monongalia County about 1770 or 1771, but was reared in what is now Marion County, where he became the owner of a fine farm and was also engaged in surveying. He died about 1820. He was married to a Miss Prickett, who was born in Prickett's Fort, and by her became the father of a large family, one of whom, Mary McClelland, died only a few years ago at the phenomenal age of one hundred and five years. The others of the family were as follows: James, who was a Major in the War of 1812 and afterward became a successful farmer; David, who died on a farm in Iowa in 1867; Jacob, father of the subject of this sketch; Druscilla (Cochran), and Elizabeth (Martin). Jacob Morgan was born in what is now Marion County, West Virginia, September 12, 1793, and such education as the common schools of his day afforded he obtained. He early started to make his own way in the world, and when about thirty years

of age was married to Sarah McDonald, by whom he became the father of eight children: Sarah and Stephen died young; John R. is living in Marion county; Aaron lives on the old homestead in Marion County; Miranda (Moran) died in Iowa; Stephen H., who was a member of Company B, Third West Virginia Infantry, was in the engagements at Cross Keys, Port Republic, Cedar Mountain and McDowell, and was killed in the second battle of Bull Run, leaving a family in Marion County, West Virginia; Evan C. was murdered by a playmate at the age of ten or twelve years; Jacob M., who is living in Calhoun County, was a soldier in Company F, Third West Virginia Infantry, and was in all the engagements in which his brother Stephen participated, besides others. The mother of these children died in 1842 and Jacob Morgan afterward married Miss Elizabeth Waldo, daughter of Jedediah and Polly (Parton) Waldo, both of whom were natives of Hoosick Falls, New York (see sketch of Waldo family elsewhere). Mrs. Morgan was born in Harrison County, West Virginia, June 18, 1806, and was one of the following children: John B.; Olive (Johnson); Daniel, a resident of Oregon; David; Samuel; Joseph, who died unmarried in Clarksburg, November 21, 1871; Lovina (Walmsley); William assisted many forty-niners to cross the plains to California, in which State he was afterward a candidate for Governor but was defeated; Lawrence L. was killed in the West; Isaac C. was killed in a saw-mill near Weston, West Virginia, and Prudence. Mrs. Morgan died in Marietta, Ohio, in 1882, after having become the mother of four children: David P. (subject); O. F. was educated in a normal college of Ohio, enlisted as a private in the Twenty-fifth Ohio Infantry at the age of fifteen, and in 1861 his company was transferred to a battery of artillery. He took part in the engagements at Fredericksburg, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Cedar Mountain, Cross Keys, Port Republic and others, and at the close of the war was mustered out of the service as First Lieutenant. He is now a successful educator of Waterville, Minn., is married and has four children: Grace, Waldo, Fred and an infant; Emily D., wife of Captain T. B. Meyers of Winfield, Kansas, has two children: Mabel and William; and Julia is the widow of J. H. Holmes. Prior to her marriage with Mr. Morgan Mrs. Morgan was the wife of William Martin, by whom she had five children: James P., who became a "forty-niner" and is still living in California; Henry C., who died in California; William P., also a resident of that State; Prudence (Hoskins) of Calhoun County, West Virginia, and Mary (Swearingen), who is a widow and lives in Marion County. Jacob Morgan was a lumberman on the Monongahela and Ohio Rivers, built a number of flat-boats, which he

loaded and ran down to Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and sometimes to New Orleans. He also boated some on the Cumberland River, and about forty years of his life was spent in this work, the most of his time prior to 1840 being given to farming, during which time he acquired six good farms, but the man to whom he sold took advantage of the bankrupt law of that day and ruined Mr. Morgan financially. After that he operated a steam saw and grist mill at Winfield, Marion County, up to the time of his death, May 25, 1873. He was very public spirited, of a charitable and generous disposition and politically was first an old-line Whig and later a Republican. He held a number of official positions. When the war came up, being an outspoken Union man, his life was threatened, and with a number of others he was compelled to go into hiding for some time. He even carried his principles so far as to have his son-in-law, Moran, arrested for treasonable language. Dr. David P. Morgan was born at Winfield, Marion County, West Virginia, February 28, 1844, and passed his early life on the old home farm. He attended the public schools until the opening of the war, and when but a lad of seventeen enlisted in Company B, Second West Virginia Infantry, which in 1863 was made the Fifth West Virginia Cavalry. He was also at McDowell, Cross Keys, Port Republic, Cedar Mountain, Second Bull Run, Rocky Gap and numerous skirmishes, being kept in the mountains as a scout and on picket duty. He was taken prisoner at the second battle of Bull Run, but was paroled on the field. He served for some time on the Topographical Engineering Corps, helping to make many surveys. He was sick in the hospital at Frederick, Maryland, in 1862. After the war Dr. Morgan attended an academy at Morgantown, which was named in honor of his family, and later took a course at Duff's Commercial College at Pittsburgh, after which he taught in the public schools of West Virginia during 1866, 1867 and 1868. In the last-mentioned year he entered the Starling Medical College of Cincinnati, which he attended up to 1870, then practiced his profession in Marion County until 1875. He then entered a medical college of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated in 1876, and the following year he located in Clarksburg, where his home has since been. He was a member of the Board of Pension Examiners for seven years, was a member of the County, State and American Medical Societies, has held all the offices in the county association and was President of the West Virginia State Medical Association in 1893. On account of ill health he visited the Azores as ship surgeon on the bark "Kennard," and during the three months that he was absent was much benefitted. The doctor has given much study to



diseases of women and he has built up a large practice. He is prominently connected with some of the most extensive enterprises of the county, and is considered one of the most substantial citizens of Clarksburg. He was married to Miss Annette R. Shinn, daughter of Abel and Elizabeth A. (Gawthrop) Shinn. She was born in Harrison County on a farm, on which her father died in 1888. He was Postmaster of Adamville, and a son of Benjamin Shinn. His widow is living at Adamville, and four children also survive him: Joseph M., Annette R. (Mrs. Morgan), Edgar and Ella (Lowe). To the doctor and his wife the following children have been given: E. Gertrude, who is a graduate of Broaddus College of the class of 1890, is now taking a special course in the Woman's College at Baltimore, Maryland, preparatory to teaching; Tully, died at the age of three years; Charles E. is attending school at Fort Plaine, New York, having graduated from the high school of Clarksburg; Beulah is attending Broaddus College, and Harold is in a private school. The doctor and Mrs. Morgan are members of the Baptist Church, and socially he is a Mason, a member of Hermon Lodge No. 6 of Clarksburg. He also belongs to Custer Post, Grand Army of the Republic, of which he is Past Commander. He has a beautiful home, the result of honest endeavor, and he and his family are universally esteemed and respected.

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## WALDO B. BROWN.

Waldo B. Brown, a successful farmer of Union District, Harrison County, West Virginia, was born in Lewis County, this State, in 1831, and is a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Bailey) Brown. The father was born in Lewis County about 1796 and the mother in Harrison County a few years later. After marriage the elder Brown settled in Lewis County and there died about February 22, 1865. His wife died five or six years later. Both were members of the Baptist Church. In early life Mr. Brown followed carpentering in Clarksburg, helped construct the first dam at that place, and for some time worked in Captain Benjamin Jackson's Foundry. Later in life he took up the study of medicine and practiced with good success for a number of years. He also tilled the soil to some extent. His father, James Brown, came from South Branch, Potomac, Maryland, to Lewis County, when that section was sparsely settled, and there lived during the Indian troubles. He

was of Irish origin. Grandfather Captain William Bailey was born in Virginia and there was reared and married. He was one of the pioneers of Harrison County, where he followed farming the remainder of his days. He was Captain of the militia in an early day. His wife, Elizabeth Minter, died in Harrison County. The following children, named in the order of their birth, were born to the parents of our subject: Paschal P., of Lewis County; Elias (deceased); Harriet, died when sixteen; William A. J. (deceased); Waldo B.; Elizabeth, died during girlhood, and Washington (deceased). The principal part of our subject's education was received by the chimney fire after his marriage, for during his youth most of his time was employed in assisting on the home place. On the 26th of October, 1854, he wedded Miss Mary E. Norris, a native of Harrison County, whose parents, John and Jemima (Spillman) Norris, were from old Virginia. They (the parents) moved to Harrison County and thence to Lewis County, where Mr. Norris was drowned in Freeman's Creek. His widow died in Lewis County. He was a farmer, but for many years taught school. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Brown: Roberta F. (deceased), was the wife of John T. Summerville; Lloyd P.; Woodville; Martha Ellen (deceased); Flora J., wife of Salathiel Lawson; Roseland M., wife of James Summerville of Gilmer County; Susan N., wife of William Jarvis; Cora B., wife of J. L. Kelley; Mary E.; John H. (deceased); Ida, and Roy G. Mr. Brown made his home in Lewis County until 1868, when he moved to his present farm, 200 acres, fourteen miles southwest of Clarksburg. Farming has been his principal occupation, but in connection he handles considerable stock, sheep, cattle, horses, etc. Mr. Brown is one of the most intelligent men of his locality, is well posted on all current events, and is a social, pleasant man to meet. Formerly a Whig in politics he subsequently became a Greenbacker and is now Independent. He and his wife are good Baptists.

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## CHARLES E. ELLIS.

Among Newburgh's representative men who have materially aided in the advancement and prosperity of the city few are better known and none are more worthy of a place in this work than is the subject of this sketch. He is now a prominent merchant, manufacturer, and dealer and exporter of lumber

in Newburgh, West Virginia, where he has the confidence and good will of all favored with his acquaintance, and where he has been engaged in business since 1865. Mr. Ellis was born in Fredericktown, Maryland, November 22, 1845, and in that State his parents, Joseph R. and Henrietta (Tettlow) Ellis, were also born. After his marriage Mr. Ellis, Sr., resided in Maryland until April, 1853, when he moved with his family to West Virginia, Preston County, and settled at Newburgh. There he was engaged in railroading, and held the position of engineer on the Baltimore & Ohio for forty-five years. He is now, after a long and useful life, retired from its active duties, and his seventy-two years rest lightly on him. He lost his life's companion in December, 1893. Their family consists of four children, of whom our subject is the eldest. The second in order of birth, E. C. Ellis, resides in Fairmount and is an engineer on the Monongahela Road; Laura is the wife of S. L. Allen of Grafton, and Lewis H. is a farmer of Preston County. C. E. Ellis received a fair education in his native county, but is mainly self-educated since reaching mature years. He branched out for himself as a clerk when starting in life, received practical training in this department and early displayed unusual business acumen. In 1869 he commenced business for himself at Tunnelton, remained there four years and then in 1873 returned to Newburgh, where he formed a partnership with S. L. Allen, remaining in business with that gentleman until 1887. At that date he sold out and formed a partnership with his sons, subsequently buying his present business house in which he put a fine stock of general merchandise. He has an immense trade, and is one of the most active and successful business men of Preston County. There has been nothing phenomenal in Mr. Ellis' success; it has been the result of constant application and indefatigable energy. There has been no lucky stroke of fortune in his life. He was given an opportunity to work, to be frugal, to be honest, to be truthful, and had enough manliness of character to accept, with a high and lofty purpose, the responsibilities of life. In 1882, he engaged in the manufacture of lumber with S. L. Allen, and since then has been carrying on an extensive manufacturing enterprise. In 1886, he bought out his partner, and now manufactures on an average of one million feet. He also buys of others and ships to eastern cities of this country and to Europe. Mr. Ellis was married here December 3, 1867, to Miss H. J. Dawson, a native of Monongalia County, West Virginia, and the daughter of Rolla and C. F. Dawson. Six children have been born to this union, three sons and three daughters, the eldest being C. Franklin, who is a member of one of the largest exporting

firms of Baltimore and a man of superior business ability. The next, Joseph E. R. Ellis, is attending Bellevue Medical College; Carrie H. is the wife of George Hillgardner of Richmond, Virginia; Clarence P., is at home and is a clerk in his father's store; Laura B. is attending the home school, and Kate is also in school. Politically Mr. Ellis is a Republican and cast his first Presidential vote for U. S. Grant, in 1868. Since then he has voted for every presidential nominee of his party. He has held several local official positions of responsibility and for several years was President of the Board of Education. He has never aspired to office, but has given his principal attention to his business. Socially he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, is Past Grand of his lodge, and is also a member of the Knights of Honor, in which he has served through all the chairs. He is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

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## JOHN C. VANCE.

Hon. John C. Vance was born at Pruntytown, Harrison (now Taylor County), West Virginia, November 28, 1835. His parents were Colonel Cyrus and Minerva S. (Davis) Vance, whose marriage occurred in 1831. Colonel Cyrus Vance was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, October 15, 1807, and his father, Moses Vance, was one of the earliest settlers of that section. Colonel Vance removed to Clarksburg, Virginia, in 1829, where he followed his occupation of saddler. His wife, who was born at Woodstock, Shenandoah County, Virginia, September 19, 1810, was the daughter of Caleb and Mary Davis, who were early settlers of Clarksburg. Mr. Davis was born March 15, 1769, and died February 15, 1834. His wife was born in 1774 and died September 2, 1827. They were well and favorably known to the early settlers of Harrison County, where they died. Colonel Vance soon after his marriage to Miss Davis removed to Pruntytown, Harrison County, but in 1842 moved to Clarksburg, where they remained until 1853, when Colonel Vance, having been appointed postal agent on the Baltimore & Ohio Railway by President Pierce, removed to Wheeling, where he made his home until 1858. In that year he was appointed Postmaster at Clarksburg by President Buchanan, removed there and made it his home the

remainder of his days. He continued Postmaster of Clarksburg under President Lincoln until 1863, when he resigned. Colonel Vance was an ardent Democrat and took an active part in politics. In 1852, he was elected a member of the Virginia House of Delegates, and was five times elected Mayor of Clarksburg, a position he was filling at the time of his death, which occurred August 10, 1875. He was a member of Adelpi Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, from its organization in 1847; was Grand Patriarch of the State, and often represented his lodge in the Grand Lodge. He was of prepossessing personal appearance, was of a genial and friendly disposition, was highly respected, and had many warm personal friends. He was a Colonel of militia and Captain of a Volunteer company. In 1847, he raised a company of volunteers for the Mexican War, but they were not called into active service. While residing at Pruntytown his only children were born. Elizabeth A. on May 7, 1832, and John C., November 28, 1835. Elizabeth A. became the wife of Captain George J. Stealey, October 9, 1854, and died August 23, 1870, leaving two daughters, Lillie and Hattie, and two sons, Vance and D. McK., all of whom, together with the father, are now living. John C. Vance, who has resided the greater part of his life in Clarksburg, was educated at the Northwestern Virginia Academy, and in 1858 graduated from the law school of Judge John W. Brockenbrough at Lexington, Virginia, and practiced his profession at Clarksburg until the commencement of the Civil War. In 1861, both he and his cousin, Hon. John J. Davis, were elected to the Virginia Legislature as Union men.

The war having begun they went to Wheeling and served in what was known as the Legislature of the re-organized government of Virginia. In 1863, Mr. Vance not approving of the course of the administration, resigned his seat in the Legislature and was shortly after arrested and imprisoned in Fort McHenry, near Baltimore. In 1869, he was elected cashier of the Bank of West Virginia at Clarksburg, and served in that capacity until November, 1889. He served many years as a member of the City Council, and Recorder of the town, and two years as Mayor, being elected in 1891 and 1892. He is a member of the same lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows as was his father, having become a member in 1858. He has filled the office of Grand Patriarch of West Virginia, and has three times represented the Encampment in the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the United States: At Cincinnati in 1881; Baltimore in 1882, and Providence, Rhode Island, in 1883. In 1891-2 he served as one of the Regents of the West Virginia University. Although an ardent Democrat he has never, since 1861, been a candidate

for a political office. On November 28, 1861, he was united in marriage with Miss Amelia H., daughter of Captain James Y. Hornor, an old and respected citizen of Clarksburg. Mrs. Vance was born at Lumberport, Harrison County, July 2, 1836, and was called from life October 6, 1886, leaving three sons: Lee H., born June 29, 1864; Cyrus Earle, born July 27, 1871, and John Carl, born October 18, 1872. Lee H. is the present Postmaster at Clarksburg. The two younger sons were educated at the West Virginia University at Morgantown, and are wide-awake, prosperous hardware merchants of Clarksburg. Cyrus Earle is First Lieutenant of Company K, First Regiment, West Virginia National Guard, and is also a member of the Uniform Rank, Knights of Pythias. Hon. John C. Vance resides on Pike Street, Clarksburg, and is well known throughout the county, having many warm friends, as did also his wife, who was a woman of noble character, and an earnest member of the Baptist Church.

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## THOMAS JEFFERSON FARNSWORTH.

This substantial and progressive citizen of Buckhannon, West Virginia, is a native of the place. He was born May 17, 1829, being the fourth of eleven children born to Nathaniel and Susan P. (Simons) Farnsworth. His father (Nathaniel) was born on Staten Island, New York, February 22, 1797. His grandfather, Daniel Farnsworth, was born in New Jersey, while his great-grandfather, Thomas Farnsworth, was born at or near Bordentown, New Jersey. The brother of Nathaniel Farnsworth, James Farnsworth, was a soldier of the War of 1812-14. The family is descended from English colonial settlers of America. The maternal grandfather, Leonard Simons, was born in Virginia, and was one of the first to take up his residence on the Buckhannon River, his settlement being in the Eighteenth Century. He was descended from early German settlers of Pennsylvania. The wife of Daniel Farnsworth was a Miss Stout, born and reared in New Jersey. He traded land on Staten Island for property on the Buckhannon River, now the site of the town of Buckhannon, and came thither with his family in 1821, and their house, which was erected in 1821, and is the oldest house in Buckhannon Town, is still standing. A farm was opened up from the primeval forest and became a valuable piece of property. Mr. Farnsworth



*Thos. J. Farnsworth*





was a Democrat politically and was interested in all things of a public character. He died in 1848. Nathaniel Farnsworth came into possession of the property, on which Buckhannon is now built, when the estate was divided. After the organization of Upshur County, in 1852, Buckhannon became the county seat, and many lots were sold by Mr. Farnsworth. After a useful and active life he died in 1868, but his widow survived until 1888, and had been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for seventy years at the time of her death. Thomas Jefferson Farnsworth was educated in the private schools of this place, and remained under the shelter of the parental roof until he was eighteen years of age. He then served an apprenticeship at the blacksmith trade, and after working at the same in various places, he conducted a shop of his own in Buckhannon for one year. March 8, 1852, he started for California with Dr. William H. Westfall, a cousin, and after reaching Missouri a party was made up to cross the plains. Upon reaching Mariposa County, California, September 6, 1852, they at once engaged in mining, and in a few months Mr. Farnsworth had accumulated \$350. He then rented a shop, began working at his trade and continued this occupation for about seven years, and as he did a very large business he employed many hands. In 1857, he came home on a visit, became engaged to be married and returned here permanently in 1859, worth about \$30,000, the result of seven years' work. May 19, 1859, he was married to Miss Mary E. Carper. He purchased much property in and about Buckhannon and engaged in farming and stock-raising on a large scale, and this property has since greatly increased in value. After the war he became active politically and has held many offices. He was appointed as one of the commissioners to hold the first election under the new State; was elected the first Supervisor of the county and became the first president of this board, and was a Trustee to open the first free school here. He was elected to the House of Delegates in 1874, served in 1875, was a member of several important committees, and in 1876 was re-elected to this office in a county strongly Republican, but at the expiration of his term declined re-election. In 1889 he was the Democratic nominee for the State Senate of the Tenth Senatorial District, comprising the counties of Upshur, Randolph, Tucker, Barbour, Taylor and Lewis. He was elected without opposition and served in the General Assembly of the State in 1880 and 1881. Upon the reorganization of the Senate in 1883 he was elected president of that body and served as such during that year and 1884. Since that time he has declined official position. In 1877, he was appointed by Governor Matthews as regent for the State

University, and was successively appointed by Governors Jackson, Wilson and Fleming, and is now completing his eighteenth year in that office. He has been president of the Buckhannon Bank and is now one of the directors. He was one of the organizers of the Electric Light Company, is now its president, and was an active worker and a liberal contributor on securing the location of the two schools (the United Brethren Academy and the Methodist Episcopal Conference Seminary) here. He owns several fine and valuable farms, a dozen or so houses in Buckhannon, and his stock interests are very extensive, his droves of horses, cattle and sheep being very large. He was made a Mason in California in 1855, but he transferred his membership to Franklin Lodge No. 7, Buckhannon, and has served as Master of it for eleven years. He and his wife are the parents of six children: Emma, who died at the age of two years; Carrie M. died when three years old; Anna May is the widow of Dr. George B. Edmiston; Mary Martha is the wife of N. B. McCarty; Maud Carper and Thomas B. Mr. and Mrs. Farnsworth are members of the Baptist Church, and he is a deacon in the same. Mr. Farnsworth is a man of unblemished reputation, his name is inseparably linked with the prosperity of Upshur County and from his active, useful and circumspect life, a lesson of genuine worth may be gleaned. His career has been marked by all that goes to make up useful and noble manhood and his imprint will long be felt in the section in which he lives.

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## COLONEL R. W. EASTHAM.

This worthy citizen was born in Rappahannock County, Virginia, February 28, 1842, and was reared on a farm with a fair education received in the common schools. When sixteen years old he began clerking and when nineteen he enlisted in the Confederate service as a private, Sixth Virginia Cavalry, in Stonewall Jackson's Brigade. After the battle of Gettysburg he was placed in Mosby's Battalion and served as scout most of the time, but participated in most of the leading engagements of the Valley of Virginia. He was in both battles of Manassas, also Gettysburg, and was a brave and faithful soldier. He went by the name of "Bob Ridley," and now carries wounds as trophies of his scouting days. He was first wounded at or near

Waterloo when falling back from Manassas, shot through the foot by a minie ball. He lost about two months from this and then again joined his command. In 1864 he was wounded near Middleburg, and for some time was disabled. He was captured near Gettysburg and held for about two hours. A reward was offered for him and at one time when surrounded by the Union soldiers he escaped detection by taking a cradle and rake and sitting down on a sheaf of wheat. The soldiers did not suspect that he was the dangerous "Bob Ridley" of whom they were in search. They passed by and he returned to his command. Mosby's Guerrillas will long be remembered by the Federal soldiers, especially those who came in contact with "Bob Ridley." Returning home our subject began farming on rented land and continued this for two years, when he ventured into the horse-training business with Rockwell. Two years later he returned home, married and settled down to tilling the soil. This was in 1869 and he continued to farm until 1876, when he came to West Virginia. Here he bought a tract of raw land, improved it, and remained on it until 1884, when he came to this place. Here he lived in a tent for some time and laid out the land for the Town of Davis. He is a practical surveyor and made the map for the county, and is still engaged in that occupation, surveying and locating tracts of land for capitalists. He and Mr. Parsons laid out the Town of Davis and he was Justice of the Peace in the county. He has remained in this county for the most part ever since, has erected four houses, and ran a flourishing store here up to 1890. He was a most useful man in the development of the town and county, and has assisted in starting all the milling interests here and is active in all enterprises of moment. He still owns 576 acres in Canan Valley and many acres in this county. Our subject's paternal grandfather came from England to this country with two brothers and settled in Virginia. His son, Captain B. F. Eastham, father of subject, was a prominent slave-owner and farmer. He first married Miss Eliza Browning, daughter of John D. Browning, who was an Englishman and a very prominent slave-owner and farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Eastham became the parents of twelve children, two of whom died young: R. W. (our subject); Dabney served in the war; Emma C., Philip B. served with Mosby's Battalion; William B. served through the war and died in 1872; John B. resides on the old homestead; Edwin L. died in 1887; Anna M., Ada V. married J. W. Miller, and is now deceased, and Charles resides on a farm near the old home place. The mother of these children died in 1859, and the father afterward married again. He died in 1888, but his second wife is still

living. The mother was a member of the Baptist Church. In 1869 the subject of this sketch married Miss Mary C. Read, daughter of Dr. A. W. and Mary A. (Wood) Read, both of Virginia. Dr. Read was a surgeon in the Confederate army during the Civil War and practiced his profession for over forty years. He was also a minister in the Baptist Church and took a deep interest in Sabbath school work. He was active in political matters and was quite a prominent speaker, but served as Magistrate under protest. For years he made his home in Washington, Virginia, but in 1885 moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where he died in 1893. To Mr. and Mrs. Eastham was born one child, Eliza, who died when a little over three years old. Our subject and wife are members of the Baptist Church, and he is a Democrat in politics, but does not aspire to office.

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## GEORGE T. FARIS.

This gentleman is descended from one of the early families of this section and was born on the farm on which he is now living, September 15, 1816, a son of Humphrey and Magdaline (Goodwin) Faris, the former of whom was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, February 2, 1773. He was a son of James and Polly (Bell) Faris, and James Faris was a Pennsylvanian by birth and of Irish descent. He was killed by the Indians about 1785, on the Ohio River, at which time he was carrying provisions to the soldiers in the blockhouses along that stream. About twenty others were massacred at the same time. Humphrey Faris moved to Harrison County, West Virginia, in 1797, and located on the farm on which George T. Faris is now living, the patent for which was made out in 1785. He was first married to Sarah Ross in Pennsylvania, by whom he became the father of eight children: James, John, Ross, Edith, Alexander, Jane, Catherine and Humphrey. In 1812 he married Miss Goodwin, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Webb) Goodwin, Virginians by birth and rearing. Mr. Goodwin was a farmer and he and his wife died in this county, after having reared a large family. Mrs. Faris was born in Harrison County, and died in 1828, after having become the mother of the following children: Mary, George T., Zipora, Comfort, Hannah and Nancy, all of whom are living except Comfort.

Their father died in 1853 at eighty years of age, having lived a useful life and accumulated a good property. Politically he was a Whig, and in 1819 was a member of the State Legislature from this county. George T. Faris was the only son of the second marriage and has spent his entire life on the farm on which he is now living, which he is successfully engaged in tilling, although much of his time is given to raising stock. In his younger days he was Captain of a company of militia. In 1854 he was married to Miss Mary A. Sheets, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Nisley) Sheets, who were Virginians, and came to this section at a very early day, spending the rest of their lives here on a farm. Mrs. Faris was born in this county and was one of a family of ten children: George, John, Fenton, Washington, Martin, Daniel, Margaret, Elizabeth, Jane and herself. She died in 1874, leaving six children: Samuel S., Harriet J. (deceased), Rachel, wife of John Dunkin, of Bridgeport; Laura B. (deceased), John B., who died at the age of eight years, and Ellen, wife of Frank Bailey, of Grafton. Mr. Faris is one of the strong Republicans of the county, cast his first Presidential vote for William Henry Harrison, in 1840, and for his grandson, Benjamin Harrison. He has been successful in the management of his affairs and is the owner of 900 acres of land in the vicinity of Bridgeport, which he devotes to grazing. Samuel S. Faris, son of George T. Faris, has followed in his father's footsteps and is a farmer and stock-raiser. He was born on the farm which was also his father's birthplace, which is near his present home, September 5, 1855. He had an able instructor in the art of farming and stock-raising in his father, but the latter wisely gave him good educational advantages also, and after attending the public schools he entered the West Virginia College when about eighteen years old, where he acquired a practical education. He was married in 1881 to Miss Sallie, daughter of John and Cornelia (Hurry) Davidson, the former of whom was born in Taylor County, Virginia, June 14, 1822, a son of Alexander Davidson, who was one of the first settlers of that section. John Davidson removed with his family to Bridgeport, West Virginia, about 1865, and there he was engaged in milling and operating a woolen factory until his death, April 7, 1892, his widow still being a resident of that place.

He was a Democrat in politics and for some time was a Justice of the Peace in Taylor County. To Mr. Davidson and his wife five children were born: Sallie, Charles and F. L., residents of Bridgeport; Lucy and Margaret. To Mr. and Mrs. Faris the following children have been born: George T., Clara C., Rachel M., John D., who died at the age of two years; Florence I.,

Nellie, Mary L. and a baby that has not yet been named. Mr. Faris and his wife are members of the Baptist Church, and he is a Republican politically. He has been active in political matters, has been a delegate to State and county conventions, and is a member of the County Republican Committee, County Commissioner of Harrison County, besides holding numerous minor positions. He was appointed to the position of State Statistical Agent of West Virginia, by Secretary Jerry M. Rusk, and held the office during the last two years of General Harrison's administration, being the first man to fill this position in the State. He has ever been active and full of energy, alive to all the issues of the day as well as to his own interests, but has ever been the soul of honesty in all his transactions and is respected and esteemed accordingly.

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## LLOYD F. RANDOLPH.

The petty difficulties of the district to which our subject belongs, find their way to his office, and also find in him an arbiter that, as a rule, sends the respective parties away in better humor with themselves, and with the world in general, than on coming to him. Mr. Randolph was born April 14, 1836, in Harrison County, West Virginia. His father, Jesse Randolph, a native of New Jersey, followed farming for many years and also kept hotel on the pike from Baltimore to Cincinnati, the old stage route, and made considerable money. He married Miss Delila Leforge in his native State, where he remained four years, and then returned to Harrison County. Six children were born to this marriage: Sarah, Samuel, John, Margaret, Rachel and Jonathan. The mother of these children died in Harrison County and Mr. Randolph took for his second wife Miss Elizabeth Gillis, a native of Ireland, and they were married at Clarksburg. Five children were the fruits of this union: Elizabeth, Mary, Nancy, Alexander and Lloyd. Mr. Randolph died in June, 1863, and the mother in March, 1865. Both were earnest members of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, and he was a member of the Masonic Fraternity. Our subject attended subscription schools during his youth, but later entered the schools at West Union,

where he received a thorough training. He remained under the parental roof until thirty years old and in 1858 married Miss Elizabeth H. Davis. He then took charge of the home place and the parents remained with him until their deaths. At the present time he lives on a portion of the old home place, which his father bought and improved. Mr. Randolph has always followed farming and is one of the prominent stock-raisers of the county, raising principally horses, cattle and sheep. He soon found out that the country was well adapted to the raising of stock and turned his attention in that direction with excellent results. Although deeply interested in his various enterprises, Mr. Randolph does not lose sight of his duties as a citizen and takes a prominent part in all public affairs. He has held a number of offices and discharged the duties of all in a creditable and satisfactory manner. He has been treasurer of the school board ever since the school was organized, served as Constable four years and in 1888 he was elected Magistrate, which position he holds at the present time. His ancestors were among the first settlers in this region and the Town of Salem was laid out by one of his ancestors, Samuel Randolph, who called it New Salem. He also helped to organize the Seventh Day Baptist Church, which flourishes to this day, and has a fine college under its leadership. Our subject's marriage resulted in the birth of five children, as follows: Calwell M. F. at home; Belinda R. married P. C. Williams, a farmer and stock-raiser; J. A. at home; Edgar D. at home and Evander M., a teacher, also at home. Mrs. Randolph is a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, as were also her parents, Jesse and Abigail (Huffman) Davis. Mr. Randolph has held the position of elder of the church for many years, since quite a young man, and is an earnest, conscientious worker in the same. In politics he is a Democrat, but voted against secession.

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## THAYER MELVIN.

The subject of this sketch is a native of Brooke County, West Virginia, having been born and reared in the Town of Fairview, the county seat for many years of Hancock County, formed in 1847 of territory before then included in Brooke. After a common and high school course, he began the study of the law as a profession, and was admitted in 1853, at the age of

eighteen years. In 1855, while still under age, he was elected Prosecuting Attorney to fill a vacancy, and was re-elected for full terms of four years in 1856 and 1860, and again in 1866 for the term of two years, eligibility not depending upon citizenship. In 1858, he removed to Wheeling, becoming the junior of the law firm of Pendleton & Melvin. Soon after the beginning of the Civil War, he enlisted from his native county in the First West Virginia Infantry, and after serving a few months as Orderly Sergeant was commissioned First Lieutenant of Company F of that regiment. In 1862, he was tendered and accepted a Federal commission as Assistant Adjutant-General of Volunteers, and served in that capacity, mainly at the headquarters of the Department of West Virginia, until late in 1865, when he was honorably discharged, with brevets for efficient services in the line of duty. In 1866, he located in Wellsburg, and in that year was nominated and elected Attorney-General of the State and re-elected in 1868, quitting the office in 1869 to accept an appointment as Judge of the Wheeling, or First Judicial, Circuit, made to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the former incumbent. Subsequently, in 1872, he was elected for the full term of eight years, and in 1880 became, by election, one of the two Circuit Court Judges provided for that circuit by Constitutional Amendment. In November, 1881, after a service on the bench of something over twelve years, he resigned with a view to resuming the practice of his profession. Having returned to Wheeling in 1867, he became a member of the bar of that city and since has been in active practice in the State and Federal Courts. He is at present a member of the law firm of Ewing, Melvin & Ewing.

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## CHARLES K. BOWMAN.

Evansville, West Virginia, can well be proud of the amount of brains and energy possessed by her representative business men, for, taken as a whole, there are none brighter, more intelligent, or with more ability and push in any direction. Charles K. Bowman, proprietor of the Evansville Woolen Mills, is one of these and has the additional honor of being a native of the town, for he first saw the light of day there on the 22d of January, 1867. His father, Jonathan Bowman, came to Preston County in an early day and bought out the Evansville Woolen Mills. In 1887 he had the misfortune to



be burned out, but soon after erected the present mill and was successfully engaged in the business here for about twenty-five years. The remainder of his days were spent in Preston County, and he proved one of her most progressive and useful citizens. His death occurred in March, 1891, at the age of seventy-three years. His widow survives him and resides with her son. Charles K. Bowman thoroughly learned the art of woolen manufacture in his father's mill when growing up, but at the same time he was given a practical education in the common schools. After the death of his father, he purchased the interest of the other heirs in the mills and at once entered upon the management of them. He has since put in two new looms, has built a neat office, besides making other needed improvements, and is extensively engaged in the manufacture of cashmere, blankets, ladies' skirts and a general line of woolen goods, and uses on an average about 30,000 pounds of wool annually. About ten operators are kept constantly employed. Mr. Bowman was married in Buckhannon, West Virginia, September 1, 1893, to Sallie M. Neff, a native of Upshur County, and a daughter of T. H. B. Neff, one of the first settlers of that county and a soldier of the Civil War, being one of "Uncle Sam's" boys. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Bowman has resulted in the birth of two children: Vernon and Burt. Mr. Bowman has always been a member of the Republican party and his first Presidential vote was cast for Benjamin Harrison, while his father's first vote was cast for the latter's grandfather, William Henry Harrison. Mr. Bowman is a member of the Mechanics' Junior League and is a member of the Evansville Methodist Episcopal Church, while his wife belongs to the United Brethren Church. Mr. Bowman has been a resident of Preston County all his life and is universally acknowledged to be one of her most substantial citizens, and one who has her interests warmly at heart. He has been successful in business and most certainly has been so in gathering about him numerous friends.

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## DR. EDWARD DAVIS--DECEASED.

For many years the gentleman whose name heads this sketch was one of the leading physicians in this part of the State and it gives us good pleasure to chronicle here the events that marked his life as one of great usefulness. He was born in Clarksburg and in the schools of this city

received his scholastic training. At an early age he showed a strong desire for the study of medicine and soon entered upon his career, following the same successfully until his death in 1871. He selected his wife in Miss Hornor, a native of Clarksburg, and the daughter of Captain James Y. Hornor, a well-known citizen of this vicinity. Two sons were born to this union: Edward R., whose birth occurred on the 11th of February, 1868, and J. Hornor, born November 13, 1870. The former is engaged in the real estate business and is also farming and dealing in stock. Like his father he was educated in Clarksburg, and is a young man of more than ordinary business acumen. The younger son is a mining engineer and is wide-awake and thorough-going. He was educated in the University of West Virginia, at Morgantown, and entered upon his business career in 1890. After the death of Dr. Davis, his widow married Judge G. D. Candon, who died in 1891. Our subject's grandfather, Rezin Davis, was probably born in this county, as was also his wife. Dr. Davis was a staunch Democrat and his sons advocate the principles of that party. J. Hornor was married to Miss Edna Holmes, a native of Pennsylvania, and the daughter of M. G. Holmes, of Clarksburg. They have an interesting family of two children, Ewing McCleary and Catherine (twins). The mother of these children is a member of the First Presbyterian Church.

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## COLONEL N. J. COPLIN.

Among the worthy residents of Harrison County, West Virginia, it is but just to say that Colonel N. J. Coplin occupies a conspicuous and honorable place, for he has always been honest, industrious and enterprising, characteristics that will advance the interests of any man. He was born October 4, 1836, on the old home place at Grassland, where his father, David C. Coplin, resided for many years. The latter was born at Bridgeport, Harrison County, in 1808, and is a son of Jacob Coplin, also a native of Bridgeport. The latter's father, Benjamin Coplin, was the first of the family to come to West Virginia, he being a native of Rockingham County, Virginia, but of Scotch descent. After coming to this county in 1773 or '74, he settled near Clarksburg, and assisted in building the first fort at that place,

known as Nutter's Fort. He was one of the noted men during those days of Indian troubles, and the name of Coplin is interwoven with the earliest history of Harrison County. He took up a claim of 800 acres; some of the land is now owned by our subject. He was twice married and was the father of twenty-six children, all scattered over the United States. His son, Jacob, died when rather a young man. He was the father of eight or ten children, of whom the father of our subject was among the eldest. Colonel David C. Coplin married in this county Miss Olive Davisson, daughter of Nathan Davisson and a native of this county. The father of Nathan Davisson was one of the early pioneers. After his marriage Mr. Coplin resided in Harrison County until his death in 1882. His wife, who is now eighty years old, resides on the old home place in Grassland. They were the parents of four children: Nathan, Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Leonard; Margaret, and Martha, the widow of A. D. Goff, who resides on the old Goff farm. All his life David Coplin followed farming and stock-raising, and became a prominent citizen. In politics he was a Democrat. Our subject passed his early life on the home place and received his education in the common schools. He has been a resident of Clarksburg since 1872, but still owns 500 acres of the old place taken up by the great-grandfather. Like his father, farming and stock-raising have been his principal occupations, and also like him he has met with good success in these pursuits. Politically, he is a Democrat. Mr. Coplin married Miss Emma Hall, daughter of John Hall, of Elk City, Barbour County.

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## W. W. SHOCH.

There is nothing more beneficent than an example of American citizenship and the possibilities which surround it under our American institutions. The gentleman above named belongs to a most honorable class, the class familiar to us as self-made men. He has not been aided by others or fortuitous circumstances, but from the first his watchword has been that which is the secret of all successes the world has witnessed—work. From his boyhood Mr. Shoch has traveled this hard road boldly and perseveringly, and his life serves as an encouragement to others who, in hours of darkness and doubt, have need of just such an example to make them hopeful and brave. He is

of German and Scotch-Irish lineage and the first of the family to come to this country were Michael and George Shoch. The paternal grandfather, G. W. Shoch, was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and became a prominent business man of Philadelphia, in which city Benjamin W. Shoch, father of W. W. Shoch, was born, February 12, 1804, reared and educated. He learned the coach-trimmer's trade and followed it in his native city for a number of years, becoming an exceptionally expert and skillful workman. From the Quaker City he moved to York, Pennsylvania, and there his earthly career was ended in February, 1849. He had been married in Kingston, New Jersey, December 1, 1828, to Miss Abigail A. Shafer, who was born in Red Hook, New Jersey, August 10, 1806, and who survived him for a number of years, her last days being spent with her son, W. W. Shoch, in Rowlesburgh, West Virginia. Her death occurred in the Spring of 1882, and she was buried by the side of her husband at York, Pennsylvania. Their family consisted of two sons and two daughters: Mary, wife of Samuel Evans, of Columbus, Pennsylvania, who is one of the leading historians of the State; Emma, wife of A. H. Richey, of Shrewsburg, Pennsylvania, died in 1864, at Lebanon, Pennsylvania; George W. was a telegraph operator in the service of the Government during the Civil War, and manager of the Western Union Telegraph office at York, Pennsylvania, and is now a successful real estate dealer of York, Pennsylvania, and W. W. Shoch, the subject of this sketch. The latter was born in York, Pennsylvania, and in his native town was reared and educated. In early manhood he learned telegraphy, and during the twenty years that he followed this as a profession, he held some very important positions, especially during the war, when he was one of the force of Government operators. While Camp Scott was located at York he served in the office there, but gave up that position in 1862, after which he operated on the Upper Potomac and as he was known as a civilian operator he had special privileges and was allowed to pass through the lines at all times. He was the operator that transmitted and received the communication resulting in the transfer of the command of the Army of the Potomac from General Joe Hooker to General George S. Meade, and also sent General Phil. Sheridan to the Valley of the Shenandoah, where he routed General Early. Mr. Shoch resigned from the service in 1864 and accepted the position with the Western Union Company, at Baltimore, Maryland, but owing to ill-health, brought about by exposure while in the Government service, he was compelled to resign his position in Baltimore and seek a healthy mountainous country, which he found at Rowlesburgh,

whither he came in the Summer of 1865. At that time he spent but a few months in this section, but finally accepted the position as operator and subsequently as operator and agent of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and for a number of years had charge of the company's business at this place, being one of their most trusted and valued employes. Mr. Shoch finally engaged in the general mercantile business here and later in the manufacture of lumber and timber, which is now occupying his attention and in which he has been quite successful. He has been a successful business man of this place for the past fourteen years and is universally esteemed and respected. His father, before him, was an old-line Whig in politics, and since he cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1864 he has supported every Republican nominee for the Presidency. Although the political issues of the day have always interested him, he has never been an official aspirant, although he has served as a delegate to numerous county, Congressional and State conventions. He was first married in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1865, to Miss Sarah Spaulding, a cousin of Bishop Spaulding. She was born, reared and educated in Baltimore, and died in 1875, leaving four children: M. Abigail, Nellie B., Horace G. and Franklin Morse, who is taking a collegiate course in Rock Hill College, of Elliott City, Maryland; Horace G. died at the age of seven years. In Frederick, Maryland, in 1884, Mr. Shoch married Miss Fannie R. Besant, a daughter of James H. Besant, whose acquaintance he had made during the war and who is a finely educated and accomplished woman. Socially, Mr. Shoch is a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge, of Rowlesburgh, and in business and social circles he has a high reputation.

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## DR. W. S. JONES.

Many lives annually are placed in the hands of the medical practitioner, therefore it is a most necessary thing that he should be well informed in his profession, conscientious in his care of those placed under his charge and agreeable and hopeful in the sick room. Those qualities necessary for the making of a successful practitioner are possessed by Dr. W. S. Jones, who has practiced the healing art since 1868. He was born in Tyler County, Virginia, July 26, 1835, and there his boyhood days were spent on a farm and

in attending the district schools. When about eighteen years of age he commenced reading medicine and later studied under the instruction of Dr. L. H. Dorsey, whom he paid for instructing him. Later he pursued his studies under Dr. Samuel Walker, of West Union, and also practiced the profession with him. In 1868, he opened an office of his own and has ever since been an active practitioner of this county and has often responded to calls fifty miles distant. He has met with a more than ordinary degree of success in his profession and while attending faithfully to his professional duties, has by no means been inactive in other matters. In 1857-8 he and a brother conducted a boot and shoe store at Central Station, West Virginia, and also for some time conducted a general store at this place, and since the war he has been connected, more or less prominently, with mercantile pursuits. In August, 1865, he was appointed Postmaster of Central Station, held the office over seven years, when he disposed of his business and moved to a farm, where he remained a short time. After making several changes he finally settled permanently in Central Station in 1875, and in connection with his practice has conducted a drug store. He held the office of Justice of the Peace four years, was president of the Board of Education a like length of time, was pension examiner four years, was a member of the examining board during Harrison's administration and was employed by the county for three years to look after the poor in the infirmary. His life has been an unusually successful one, and besides building up a high reputation as a medical practitioner, he has been successful financially, and besides considerable land, owns a good home and a drug and grocery store in Central Station. His parents, Thomas S. and Phoebe (Shin) Jones, were Virginians by birth and both are now living at the extreme old ages of ninety-one and eighty years. Early in life he was a daily laborer, but later purchased land and became a farmer. He served as Constable for many years, Deputy Sheriff for quite a number of years, and was otherwise active during his early manhood. Although a Democrat prior to the war he was bitterly opposed to secession and then became an uncompromising Republican. He has always been a moral and upright man, and most worthy citizen. He was very skillful in the use of the rifle, and almost innumerable were the deer which fell victims to his skill. His father, James Jones, was a Virginian and a soldier of the Revolution under George Washington. He followed the calling of a butcher and farmer and game being very abundant in those days he killed many deer, turkeys, etc., and also dispatched over 100 rattlesnakes. In 1821, when he came to West Virginia, then Virginia, the country was very

thinly inhabited. He served as Deputy Sheriff and Constable for fifteen years, but in the latter part of his life met with financial reverses. To Thomas S. Jones and his wife the following children were born: W. S., Aaron S., who volunteered in the Union army and died while in the service; Eliza A. married W. P. Brown, and died after becoming the mother of one child; Helen Mary married a prominent farmer of Doddridge County; George W. served in the Union army during the war and is now living in Kansas; James F. lives at Central Station; F. L. is a farmer and stonemason of Doddridge County; Ben W. lives at Parkersburg; Harriet J. is the wife of Robert J. Moran, a farmer of this county; Josephus lives in Perry County, Ohio; Rosa L. married John C. Moran, and lives with her father, and Andrew J., who died young. Dr. W. S. Jones was married in September, 1861, to Miss Martha I. Bond, of Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, and a family of fourteen children have been born to them; Andrew J., Sarah E., Zeb W., Thomas W., who died young; Viola, who died young; Nancy J. (the three last mentioned were triplets), who married Elijah Weakley, lives at Mannington, West Virginia; Frank H. lives at Moundsville; Laura B. is at home, and Hattie M. is also at home. Five children died in infancy. Dr. Jones was reared a Democrat, but since the war has been a staunch Republican.

On May 20, 1895, Mrs. Jones was called from this life. She was a lady of most excellent character, a dutiful wife, loving mother and Christian woman. Her loss was deeply felt by her husband, children and all who knew her.

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## THOMAS ELMER DAVIS.

In the memorable session of the Legislature of 1889, from the counties composing the Tenth District, Barbour, Lewis, Randolph, Taylor, Tucker and Upshur, was placed on the rolls the above-named Republican Senator. He was born on November 9, 1844, at Simpson's, on the line of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad in Harrison County, Virginia. Received a fair English education. In 1863, he enlisted in the Union army at the age of eighteen, as a Second Lieutenant, was promoted to a First Lieutenantcy, and served till the close of the war. Has been for years engaged at Grafton in the mercantile and banking business. The voters of six counties sent him to the

Senate for the term of four years ending December 31, 1893. He was unobtrusive in his activity on the floor and in committee work, and has the elements of popularity in his appearance and his discharge of public duty. In the long contest for the election of a President of the Senate he was often voted for by his party adherents, and had he been chosen would have presided ably and with grace. He served on the Committees of Finance, Public and Humane Institutions, Federal Relations, Public Library and Chairman of Banks and Corporations.

He is one of the leading and influential men of the State, and has the confidence and respect of all who know him.

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## SAMUEL HINKLE.

This substantial citizen belongs to the firm of S. Hinkle & Co., lumber merchants of Weston and Rowlesburgh, West Virginia. He is a product of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and was born in 1839, the third in a family of six children, born to John and Catherine (Myers) Hinkle, who were born in Dauphin and Lancaster Counties, Pennsylvania, respectively. The paternal grandfather, Philip Hinkle, was also a Pennsylvanian and of German descent. John Hinkle was a school teacher for forty years in Pennsylvania, and in that State was called from life in 1874, his wife's death having occurred in 1870. They were worthy members of the Church of God and he was a local minister of that denomination, and extremely well known. He interested himself especially in the subject of morality, gave many interesting talks on that subject and all is said when it is stated that he practiced what he preached. He was an able educator, a fine penman and was in every way fitted to be a successful educator of the young. As a useful citizen he was no less prominent and he was universally respected and esteemed. Samuel Hinkle, the subject of this sketch, received his education at Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, but at an early age began working in a saw mill. In 1868 he came to Martinsburg, West Virginia, and embarked in the lumber business, but after a time he went to Hampshire County, and for four years was there engaged in the manufacture of yellow pine lumber. In 1874 he came further west and gave his attention to the purchase and sale of poplar lumber in





*Samuel Hinkle*



Doddridge County. In the year 1879 he bought a large stationary saw mill on Cheat River at Rowlesburgh, but this mill was destroyed by flood in 1888. It was soon after rebuilt and it is now one of the best equipped mills on Cheat River. He has also a planing mill, manufactures extensively and has now stored over 2,000,000 feet of manufactured lumber. In 1881, he made a business location in Weston also, and has in operation mills all along the valleys of Lewis and adjoining counties. In 1892 he handled 7,600,000 feet of lumber, and through his energy, enterprise and perseverance he has greatly augmented the lumber interests of this section, and has done a lucrative business always. He was married in 1875 to Miss Nellie Ripley, of Martinsburg, West Virginia, and their union has resulted in the birth of four children: Nellie Virginia Blair, born in the house of Captain F. M. F. Smith, of Smithton, Doddridge County, West Virginia; Oscar Edwin Parker, born in Rowlesburgh, Preston County, West Virginia; Anna Genevieve and Gertrude Knust, both born in Weston, Lewis County, West Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Hinkle are members of the Methodist Church and politically he is a Prohibitionist, and one of the leaders of that party in this county. He was one of the organizers of the Citizens' National Bank, of Weston, in fact, there are very few enterprises that have been started in that section that have not received substantial support from him.

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## WILLIAM JOHN BLAND, M. D.

There are men, and the number is by no means small, who drift into what we are accustomed to look upon as the learned professions in the same way that thousands of other men in the lower walks of life drift into the ordinary bread-winning occupations. Having no special preference for any calling, and without feeling that they have any particular fitness for a certain profession, they find themselves drifting in that direction as a result of associations or environments, and in the course of time they find themselves shouldering responsibilities for which they have scant liking, carrying burdens which rest heavily upon them, and laboring in a field which has for them no attraction other than what it yields in the way of annual income. The successful physician whose name heads this sketch impresses even those who meet him in a casual way as a man who has drifted easily and naturally

into the medical profession, who realizes that he has made no mistake in the choice of his vocation, and feels thoroughly at home in the position which he occupies. This first impression deepens with a more intimate acquaintance, and familiarity with his life leads to the unbiased and impartial view that the unusual success he has achieved is the logical sequence of talent rightly used, together with energy and industry never misapplied. He was born in Kingwood, Preston County, West Virginia, November 10, 1816, to Thomas and Mary (Newton) Bland, the former of whom was a native of Prince William County, Virginia. His father, who also bore the name of Thomas Bland, was born in Dinwiddie County, Virginia, but at an early day became a miller of Prince William County. About the year 1790 he started for the then wilds of Kentucky, but while en route died in Winchester, Frederick County, leaving a widow, whose maiden name had been Sarah Byrne, and three sons, Samuel, John and Thomas. The mother continued the journey as far as Preston County, with the intention of continuing later, but was married here to Jacob Zinn, by whom she became the mother of the following children: William B., Charles, Clara, Penny and Peyton. William became prominent in political affairs and was for some time member of the State Legislature. The Blands originally came from England, and Richard Bland, one of the early ancestors, was a member of the first Continental Congress, while Dr. Theodrick Bland was a Colonel of cavalry during the Revolution. Thomas Bland, father of Dr. William J. Bland, grew up in Preston County and learned the tanner's trade at McKeesport, Pennsylvania, after having received a practical common school education.

For many years he was the representative from Lewis County, Virginia, in the State Legislature, and was a number of times a member of the State Senate, in which he distinguished himself. He was a leader of the Democratic party and was one of the Electors of either Van Buren or Jackson. He took up his residence in Lewis County about 1817 and there made his home until his death in 1868. He was a soldier under General Harrison in the War of 1812, as were also his two brothers, and for a number of years was the Sheriff and Deputy of Lewis County. In fact, held some office the most of his life. He became possessed of considerable real estate, and for some years owned an hotel in Weston. Socially he was a Mason. He was married in Harrison County, West Virginia, to the daughter of Colonel William Newton in 1815, his father-in-law being a successful merchant and for some time a member of the Virginia Legislature from Harrison County. He and his family came from Loudoun County, Virginia, to Harrison County, and here their daugh-

ter Mary (Mrs. Bland) was born. To Mr. and Mrs. Bland nine children were given: William J., Theodrick Granville, Minerva A., Amanda, Thomas, Edwin, Mary, Newton B. and John. Theodrick Granville died in 1845. Minerva A. is the widow of Judge M. Edmiston of Weston. Amanda married Judge John Brannon, and is living at Weston. Thomas died at the age of sixteen years. Edwin is living at Sutton, Braxton County, and is an attorney-at-law. Mary became the wife of Jacob Lawrence and is deceased. Newton is a physician of Weston. John was a Captain in the Confederate Army during the war and was killed in Tennessee after the great conflict had ended. The early life of Dr. William J. Bland was spent in Lewis County, and his early educational training was received in the common schools. At the early age of seventeen years he was made Deputy Sheriff of Lewis County and held this position for two years, at the end of which time he began fulfilling a long-cherished desire to study medicine by entering the Medical College of Louisville, Kentucky, from which he was graduated as an M. D. in 1842. He at once began practicing at Weston in partnership with Dr. Barnes, and after a time was employed by the Government to go on an expedition up the Red River. He was thus employed during the greater part of 1842, prior to his graduation in medicine. A number of years previous to this he had attended the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 1843, he took up the practice of medicine in earnest and followed it without cessation up to 1861, when he went to Richmond and became a surgeon in the Thirty-first Virginia Infantry, but was afterward transferred to General Lomax's Division and was Chief Surgeon of William L. Jackson's cavalry brigade, which position he ably filled until the war closed. During this time he for three years represented Lewis County in the State Legislature, and when that body was not in session he pursued his calling in the field. He continued to practice his profession with marked success in Lewis County up to 1892, when he took up his residence in Clarksburg, this county. He has been quite active in State politics; has made a name for himself as a physician and surgeon, and in 1881 was appointed superintendent of the West Virginia Hospital for the Insane at Weston, the duties of which he discharged admirably for eight years. He was one of the prime movers in the erection of this institution in 1862, and has always shown great interest in its proper management. He was a Justice of the Peace and School Commissioner in Lewis County, and all his life has been a staunch Democrat.

Socially he belongs to the Bigelow Chapter No. 4 of the Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons at Weston, and prior to the war joined the Independent

Order of Odd Fellows. He is a member of the State Medical Society of West Virginia, of which he was for some time president, and was also a member of the old Virginia Medical Society, the Kentucky Medical Society, and is still a member of the Lewis County Medical Society. He is now retired from the active practice of his profession, and after a remarkably active and useful life is in the enjoyment of a comfortable home and competency. He was married in February, 1858, to Mrs. Columbia M. Duncan, widow of James A. Duncan, who at his death left her with one child, James J., who is a resident of Clarksburg. She was the daughter of John G. Jackson, United States District Judge, and granddaughter of Governor Meigs of Ohio. Mrs. Bland was born in Clarksburg in September, 1823, and bore the doctor two children: Meigs, who is married to the daughter of Judge John Allen of Virginia, and William Thomas, who is a prominent lawyer of Atchison, Kansas, of which place he has been Prosecuting Attorney and Mayor. The doctor and his worthy wife have long been connected with the Episcopal Church, and are widely and very favorably known. During the sixty years of his practice the doctor acquired considerable property. He and wife own Marietta Island in the Ohio River and a fine and valuable farm in Lewis County.

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## HON. JOHN W. KEYS.

This gentleman is the attentive, courteous and capable host of the leading hotel of Keyser, of which he has been the proprietor for the past twenty-three years. He seems especially adapted for this calling, and those who patronize his inn find a warm welcome, every convenience and a table well supplied with all the delicacies of the season. He was born in Martinsburg, Berkley County, Virginia, February 20, 1829, of which county his father, John Keys, was also a native, while his grandfather, John W. Keyes, was one of the honored first settlers of that section, having been one of the brave men who fought for American independence in the Revolution. John Keys, his son, was married in Berkeley County to Miss Anna M. Lashorn, of German descent but a Virginian by birth. She was his second wife and became the mother of the subject of this sketch. He was a machinist by trade and established and carried on a foundry in Martinsburg, where he reared his family and spent his life, dying there of cholera in 1853. His widow survived him for ten years,

and spent the last years of her life with her son, John W., in Piedmont, passing away in 1865. Hon. John W. Keys spent his youth in Martinsburg, where he received fair educational advantages. He left the shelter of the parental roof when a lad, went to Hampshire County, where he worked on a farm up to 1849. He then returned to Martinsburg and learned the plasterer's trade, and in 1852 began working at that calling in Piedmont and later in Keyser, continuing in this line of endeavor for twenty years. Politically he is identified with the Democratic party, has taken quite an active part in local politics, and in 1871 was elected to represent Mineral County in the State Legislature, and during his term of office served on a number of important committees. While a resident of Piedmont he served as a member of the Town Council a number of terms. He erected his present hotel in Keyser in 1872, since which time he has been successfully engaged in the business. Mr. Keys was married in Westernport, Maryland, February 1, 1855, to Miss Amanda M. Vickroy, a native of Pennsylvania, reared and educated in Bedford County and a daughter of William T. Vickroy. To them the following children have been given: Anna Mary, wife of A. P. Ritzell of Keyser; Hettie Lenora, wife of William Spotts of Hinton; Philip H., the present Postmaster of Keyser; Charles F., a rising young physician of Keyser; Thompson P., who is attending the University of Morgantown, West Virginia; Richard H., who is Assistant Postmaster of Keyser, and Glenn, a young lady at home. Three children are deceased: Robert Lee, who died at the age of twenty; John F., who died at the age of seven, and Breckinridge, who passed from life in infancy. Mr. Keys is a member of the Masonic fraternity, which order he joined in 1852 or 1853. He is not a member of any church organization, but says he takes Reason for his guide, Creation for his Bible, and to do good to his fellow-man his gospel.

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## CHARLES JAMES FAULKNER.

The misconceptions and perversions of the late civil conflict have given to certain events in the life of this eminent man an intense conspicuity which does injustice to his general, personal and political character.

Returning to his country, after indefatigable and successful services as its Minister to France, he encountered that period in the contest when the right

of a citizen to be heard in his defense was denied by the Directory and abandoned by the people. He was immediately arrested, and not for any want of fidelity to his trust—not by the State Department, which takes cognizance of a Minister's misconduct—but by the war power, and as a hostage—a Virginian to equalize an imprisoned Pennsylvanian.

This is probably a new and interesting fact to many readers, but it is an old fact, nevertheless: and will yet, in good time, take its place in history.

A man believing himself wronged by governmental oppression must bide his time, and await his chance, and often maintain silence, lest he reduce his own stature by an undignified anxiety for his vindication. A public expression cannot be cudged out, and a high-minded man will not coax it. His friends can state the points of vindication, and leave them on record, as we do briefly in this sketch, which will not admit of a biography of Mr. Faulkner.

He was born in Berkeley County, Virginia, where he maintained his residence and influence for nearly half a century, having entered the House of Delegates in the year 1831, at the age of twenty-five. As in 1832, he advocated gradual emancipation in the Virginia Legislature; so forty years later he was a leader in the Constitutional Convention of West Virginia, and vindicated there the prescience and principles of his youth.

Up to 1852, Mr. Faulkner was a Whig, but during the candidacy of General Winfield Scott, in that year, he declined longer to give his support to a party that in his judgment had abandoned its principles, and accordingly joined his destinies with the Democratic organization, and gave his earnest efforts to the election of Franklin Pierce to the Presidency. For eight years prior to the war he represented what is now the "Eastern Panhandle" in the Congress of the United States. It was perhaps the most exposed constituency in the South, occupying the salient angle at the outlet of the great Valley of Virginia, where the ebb and flow of fugitives and emissaries poured across the narrow skirt of Maryland soil, and constantly agitated those animosities which finally culminated in the John Brown rebellion at Harper's Ferry, and a little later in the Confederate States Government of America. He believed in the integrity of the Union, and in the full confidence of the country's repose under the stars and stripes; and prior to any outbreak on the part of the people of the South, he accepted the mission of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of St. Cloud, where he remained until the change of administration, when in August, 1861, he returned to his native land and surrendered his trust.



Mr. Faulkner arrived in Paris, February 18, and was presented to the Emperor, March 4, 1860. He at once entered upon the duties of his exalted station, and the work that he faithfully accumulated the first year of his stay in France is a monument of industry, zeal and efficiency. His dispatches to the State Department numbered about one hundred and twenty, or an average of one dispatch every third day. Some of them are of great length and involve such research as to evoke renewed admiration for their vigorous thought and pure diction. These dispatches make four huge folio volumes, and are now in the custody of the State Department at Washington. These records show Mr. Faulkner's sympathy to have been with the Union, for in one of them he stated that he had requested Napoleon to make no recognition of the Confederacy. I excerpt one paragraph from a letter written by Mr. Faulkner to the Secretary of State, after his return to the United States, which shows his views to have been the same as those of the administration:

"I refer to my official correspondence as a proof of my fidelity to my trust. Not an act nor an opinion of mine was disapproved by any of your predecessors; but wherever they were alluded to at all, they were approved. No act, and but one opinion that I expressed, was disapproved by you. That was the private and unofficial opinion which I expressed to M. Thouvenel in reply to an inquiry addressed by him to me, to-wit: That the United States Government did not contemplate resorting to coercion. This opinion was expressed on the 15th of April, 1861. In noticing that opinion on the 4th of May following, you say: 'The time when such questions had any plausibility has passed away.' Again, you say: 'The case is now altogether changed.' These qualifications in your disapproval of that opinion of mine were just both to me and to yourself as the exponent of the policy of the administration. For in your own dispatches, up to the 15th of April, 1861, there is a clear enunciation of the policy of the administration not to resort to coercion."

The writer is impressed with the belief that Mr. Faulkner has been unjustly censured by many of his fellow-citizens both prior and subsequent to his return to the Government that he had ably and faithfully served during one of the most critical periods of its existence. He was not guilty of treason. That charge has never been proven. His education, candor and dignity placed him within the sphere of Napoleon's special consideration, and the records show that in all of his interviews with that master of diplomacy he always was loyal to the flag of the country he was sent abroad to represent.

Our diplomatic relations with France, from the beginning of the republic, have been the most romantic and intimate of our history, and we have been

served at that court and capital by a series of the most illustrious statesmen we have produced. The year of Mr. Faulkner's residence there was not prolific in great occurrences immediately affecting our own history; but it was a year requiring the more application, because France was then mature, formative and well gathered up under a ruler fond of surprises, rather covetous of achievement and possessions in America, and able to do as he chose. The Palmerston alliance and the control of France over Spain led to a rumor of a tripartite attempt on Mexico, which Mr. Faulkner promptly protested against, and received the thanks of this Government for his prompt interference.

The social life at his residence, in the Avenue Montaigne, near the Champs Elysees, was meantime hospitable and graceful, and the Minister popular with all. When Mr. Faulkner was subsequently a prisoner at Fort Warren, he received marked attention from the most distinguished men of Boston, New York and Philadelphia, who had remembered his invariable courtesy, generous hospitality, and faithful devotion to his duties as Minister.

The crisis, however, was impending at home, and there were doubtless travelers of the McCracken character abroad in those days ready to distort, pervert, and write anonymous letters. Some of these may have desired the consideration of the new administration; others, with malice aforethought, already classed every Southerner as an enemy, and made a distinction in favor of none. Mr. Faulkner accordingly resolved to conclude his mission, so as to preserve at least his own self-respect—whatever might be the influence of misrepresentation.

Shortly after his return to this country, Mr. Faulkner was arrested by order of the Secretary of War as a hostage for Henry S. McGraw, State Treasurer of Pennsylvania, who had been captured by the Confederates and taken to Richmond. Mr. Faulkner was detained a prisoner about one month at Washington, six weeks in Fort Lafayette, New York Harbor, and six weeks at Fort Warren, near Boston. He was released on the 9th of December, 1861, when he returned to his home at Martinsburg, Virginia. While in prison he had an opportunity of learning the impression which his conduct as Minister had produced on the many able, patriotic individuals of this country who had visited Paris during his residence there as Minister. With not a single exception, their letters to him assured him of their unabated confidence in the honor of his character, and his fidelity to the Government whose commission he had held.

His arrest and incarceration had no bearing whatever upon his relations

to the Government as its Minister to St. Cloud. He was held simply as a prominent Virginian as a hostage for a Pennsylvanian who was a prisoner in the South. President Lincoln did not approve of his arrest, but he did not like to interfere as the times were critical, and no one at that time knew what the result was going to be. Mr. Lincoln had a high personal regard for Mr. Faulkner, and considered his (Faulkner's) ante bellum speech on slavery a masterful effort, and from which he often quoted in his Illinois campaign speeches.

After his release from imprisonment as a hostage, Mr. Faulkner went South, within the lines of the Confederacy. He had not been there long before his shrewd observation and judgment detected in his surroundings the seeds of disorganization and failure. He spent the greater part of three years and a half there in scholastic retirement at the abode of his daughter, Mrs. Boccock, in Appomattox County. The official battle reports of "Stonewall" Jackson, which have been admired on both sides of the Potomac, were the compositions of Mr. Faulkner, written out from the rough notes of that celebrated commander. Of these he wrote twenty-two, and all but the last were revised and signed by General Jackson. With this literary labor, which shows his grasp of great movements and faithfulness of detail, his active life in the Confederacy began and terminated.

After the war, Mr. Faulkner returned to his home in Berkeley County and resumed the practice of law, in which profession he had been eminent for years. Like his abilities and culture, his means were large and his influence great. He was elected a delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1872, that framed a second constitution for the State, and was its temporary president. He was elected a delegate to Congress from March 4, 1875, to March 4, 1877, and declined a re-election. This was his last public office.

It has been said that the Southern revolt produced many heroes, but few who survived it with heroism. Among these latter the subject of this sketch may be classed as probably the most notable example in the South. Reflective, studious, with a cheerful temperament and flexible faculties, yet blessed with a remarkable tenacity of purpose, he emerged from the war without self-accusation, and proceeded to redeem his affairs, resume the practice of his profession, and give aid and confidence to his neighborhood. He brought his large estates into excellent condition, and was president of the Berkeley County Agricultural and Mechanical Association, and president of the Martinsburg & Potomac Railroad Company up

to the time of his death. His practice was one of the largest in the South, and was pursued chiefly in the Supreme Court of the United States, the Court of Appeals of West Virginia, and the Courts of the Judicial Circuit where he resided.

Mr. Faulkner was upward of seventy years of age at the time of his death, and was of an agreeable and courteous address and refined appearance. He had blue eyes, which were of clear and quiet expression, and features ever expressive of decision and sensibility. His hair, formerly of a rich brown color, became quite gray, but it retained the luxuriance of uniform health. He had a large family of children, who had become connected by marriage with some of the most excellent households in the North and South. His death occurred at Martinsburg, November 1, 1884.

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## JOHN THOMAS MCGRAW.

No branch of the United States service is more important in its bearings upon the people than that which regulates the amount they directly, or indirectly, pay toward the public treasury. Hence the position of Internal Revenue Collector, in a State even so small as West Virginia, is a responsible and coveted trust. To fill its various duties well, between the Government and the governed, requires tact as well as executive ability.

The recent incumbent of that important office is well and favorably known to West Virginians. He is the son of Thomas McGraw, the pioneer merchant and grocer of Grafton, in Taylor County. There was born on the 12th day of January, 1856, the son, John T. McGraw. His ancestors were Thomas McGraw, who was one of the first settlers of the Town of Grafton, and Mary B. Luley, both having emigrated from Ireland at a very early age.

Mr. McGraw was educated primarily at the excellent College of St. Vincent in Wheeling, of this State, and afterward in the celebrated Yale University at New Haven, Connecticut, graduating from the law department of the latter institution in the class of 1876. He was admitted to the Taylor County Bar in the same Centennial year, and has practiced his profession, with office at the county seat thereof, since that time. Shortly after coming to the bar he was appointed one of the West Virginia counsel for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, and has since continued as such legal adviser

and attorney. In the Fall of 1880 he was elected Prosecuting Attorney for Taylor County, and served efficiently and popularly in that capacity until the spring of 1885.

In 1882, he was appointed an aide-de-camp, with the rank of Colonel, on the staff of Hon. Jacob B. Jackson, Governor of West Virginia. He held such semi-civil and military position during that administration of four years. In the Spring of 1886, upon the expiration of his term of service as Prosecuting Attorney, he was appointed by President Cleveland, during the vacation of the Senate, Collector of Internal Revenue for the collection district including all the counties of the State of West Virginia, and at the following session of the Senate was nominated and confirmed as such Collector. An ardent Democrat in his political faith, and believing that each national administration should have its responsible and important offices in the hands of those in sympathy with its policy, on the 18th of May, 1889, he surrendered his commission and voluntarily resigned his office, to take effect at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, on which date the office was promptly, and in excellent shape, transferred to Albert B. White of Parkersburg, who was appointed by President Harrison to succeed to the office upon the acceptance of the resignation of Colonel McGraw.

In his management of his collections through his jurisdiction of our fifty-four counties, he was satisfactory to the people who had business duties and relations with the Collector, and eminently so to the Government over him. During the administration of President Cleveland he was appointed the United States Disbursing Agent for the public buildings at Clarksburg, Charleston and Wheeling, and as such disbursed the funds appropriated by Congress for the construction and enlargement of these buildings.

He resumed the practice of law at Grafton, and although comparatively young in years he has a promising future before him.

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## BENJAMIN FRANKLIN MARTIN.

Hon. B. F. Martin was born near Farmington, Marion County, Virginia, October 2, 1828. His father, Jesse B. Martin, was among the early settlers of Buffalo Creek, then in Harrison County, where he devoted himself to the business of farming. The subject of this sketch was brought up as a tiller

of the soil, devoting the first twenty-one years of his life to that honest vocation. He had but limited school advantages in his early life, but soon after he reached his majority, he matriculated as a student of Allegheny College, Meadville, Pennsylvania, from which he graduated, with first honors, as a bachelor of arts in June, 1854. After graduation at college he returned to Marion County, and taught school eighteen months in Fairmont, during which time he studied law. He was admitted to the bar and commenced practice in March, 1856, locating the following November at Pruntytown, then the seat of justice of Taylor County, where he remained until a few years ago. When Grafton was made the county seat, he moved his office there.

For many years Mr. Martin devoted his undivided energies to the practice of his profession, and as a reward for his toil, became a distinguished lawyer. For a quarter of a century he was the leading member of the bar in his adopted county.

Often solicited to become a candidate for office, Mr. Martin wisely refused until he had established himself as an attorney of prominence and with a reputation fully made. When the Democratic party came into power in West Virginia in 1871, it was decided by them that a new State constitution should be framed. A convention was accordingly called for that purpose in 1872, and Mr. Martin was chosen a delegate from Taylor County. Being a good lawyer, and a superior debater, he took a high rank in the convention, and was one of its most active and useful members. The same year (1872) he was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention that met in Baltimore. Mr. Martin opposed the nomination of Horace Greeley, but in the campaign that followed, he gave him active and earnest support.

In the fall of 1872, he was a candidate for Congress for the Second District on the Democratic ticket. The new constitution was adopted at a special election, August 22, of that year. Hon. J. M. Hagans was voted for as a Member of Congress that day, receiving 3,441 votes. Mr. Martin did not allow himself to be voted for at that time, but appeared as the regular candidate of his party at the October election, receiving 5,998 votes. On the same day J. Nelson Wisner, Republican, received 1,698 votes, and D. D. T. Farnsworth, 1,321 votes. Governor Jacob certified to Congress the result of both elections, and a contest followed. Congress admitted Mr. Hagans as the duly elected member, notwithstanding the Committee of Elections reported in favor of Mr. Martin. In 1876, Mr. Martin was again his party's candidate for Congress, and was elected by a majority of 3,843. In 1878, he was re-elected by nearly 8,000 majority. While in Congress, Mr. Martin

was attentive to his duties, and was an efficient Representative. He is a conscientious man, and adheres only to that which he believes strictly to be right. No West Virginian Congressman left behind him a more faithful or more honorable record.

Mr. Martin from early manhood was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was a lay-delegate to the General Conference of 1876; was president of the Lay-Electoral Conference of that church held at Parkersburg, October, 1887, and was one of the trustees of the Conference Seminary at Buckhannon, and treasurer of the Board of Trustees. He was active in charitable work for more than a generation, and had the good will of all who knew him. In political campaigns he was always fair and upright, scorning everything dishonorable. As a lawyer no one could truthfully say a word against his integrity, for he enjoyed the reputation of being scrupulously honest in the practice of his profession.

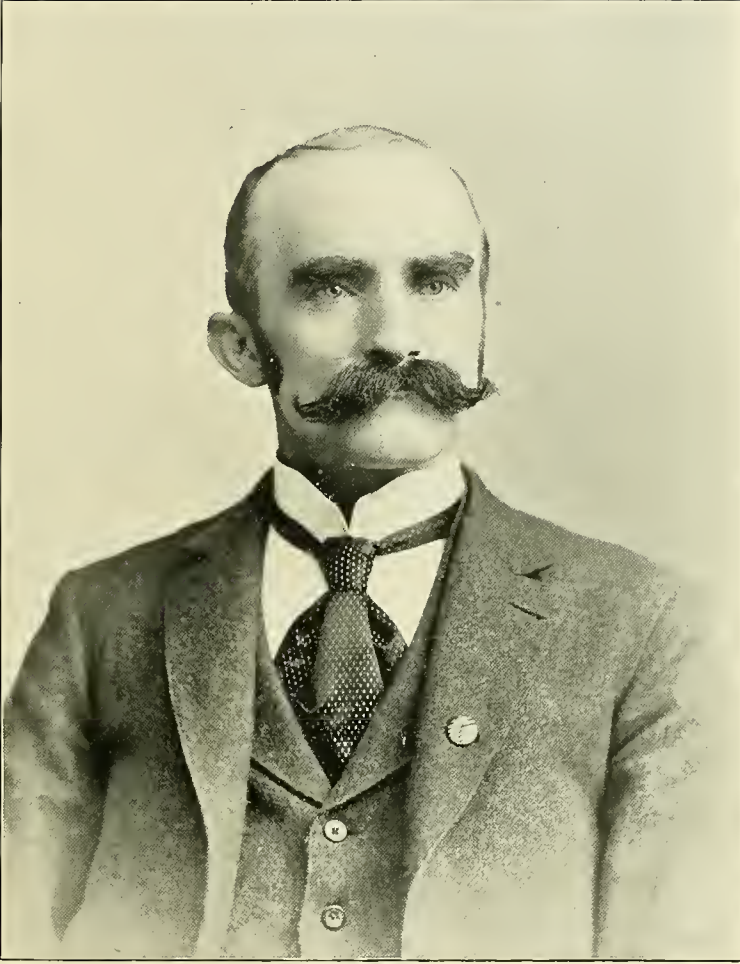
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## HON. WILLIAM H. GLOVER.

It is the men of broad and comprehensive views who give life to communities and build cities, men who have foresight and energy, pluck and push to forward their enterprises and still retain an untarnished reputation through it all. Such a man is Hon. William H. Glover, who has been engaged in the sale of farming implements in Terra Alta for the past five years, and has long been a business man of the city. He was born in Preston County, West Virginia, May 17, 1846, a son of William and Louisa (Smith) Glover, and grandson of Richard Glover and Isaac Smith, both of whom were among the first settlers of this section, the former being a successful tiller of the soil in the northern part of the county. On the old Glover homestead William Glover was reared to manhood, and after his marriage he settled on a farm in the vicinity of his old home, where he was successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits for years. He served in the Union army during the Civil War, and after he had returned home and the war had ended he was appointed to and filled the position of United States Marshal. He had located in Terra Alta in 1858, and here he worked as a carpenter and

joiner, both before and after the war. In 1885, he removed to Markleysburgh, Pennsylvania, where he is living retired from the active duties of life, a hale old gentleman of seventy-three years. He and his wife became the parents of three sons and four daughters, of whom William H. was the third in order of birth. He was educated in the schools of Terra Alta, but dropped his books on the 4th of March, 1864, to take up arms in defense of the "stars and stripes," becoming a member of the Third West Virginia Infantry, which regiment afterward became the Sixth West Virginia Cavalry. He served in Company E until he received his discharge at the close of the war, having participated in a number of skirmishes, among which was Moorfield, where he was captured and conveyed to Libby Prison. Here he was confined until near the close of the war, when he was exchanged, and was on his way to Columbus when he heard of Lee's surrender. After his return to Terra Alta he again entered the high school, and after completing his studies he engaged in clerking for the firm of Nutter & Jones, with whom he remained for a number of years, during which time he received a most thorough and practical business training in their extensive general store. Later he formed a business partnership with Mr. Jones, but two years later opened a general mercantile establishment of his own, which business he continued for several years. He then closed out his general stock of goods and began dealing in farming implements, and has now been engaged in this business for about five years. Upon the organization of the Terra Alta Bank he was one of the stockholders, was elected vice-president and has since served in this capacity. While in the army, in 1864, he cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln and since that time he has always supported the men and measures of the Republican party and has been quite active in the political affairs of Preston County. In 1885, his prominence as a business man and citizen led to his election to the State Legislature and was again elected to that honorable body for the term of 1895-6. While discharging his duties during the past term he served on several important committees, two of the most important being the Judicial and Financial Committees. He was also chairman of the committee of Private Corporations and Stock Companies. Soon after attaining his majority he was elected Mayor of Terra Alta and has since served as such three consecutive terms, the last term having expired February 1, 1895. Mr. Glover was married in West Middleton, Washington County, Pennsylvania, in 1877, to Miss Mary K. Denny, who was born, reared and educated there, a daughter of James H. Denny. To Mr. and Mrs. Glover two children have been given: Charles J. and Martha, both of whom are attending the





*W. H. Glover*



home schools. Mr. Glover is Past Grand of Terra Alta Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and is Past Commander of his post. He is a worthy member of the Terra Alta Baptist Church, and while his wife is not a member of any church organization at the present time she was formerly a member of the Presbyterian Church of her old home. The entire life of Mr. Glover has been spent in Preston County, and it is, perhaps, but natural that he should take a more than ordinary interest in her progress. He is one of the substantial men of the place, his moral character is irreproachable while his far more than average mental vigor has made him a leader in all enterprises of note in Preston County.

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## JOSEPH N. RINGER.

To her energetic, pushing and enterprising business men is due the prosperity, wealth and advancement of every city, and among the names prominent in the promotion of successful business enterprise in Terra Alta, West Virginia, is Joseph N. Ringer, who is one of her foremost merchants. He was born in Preston County, West Virginia, November 15, 1834, a son of Philip Ringer, a native of Fayette County, Pennsylvania, born in 1800. He grew to manhood there and was there united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Whetstone, a native of the State of New York, and a daughter of Joseph Whetstone, who finally located in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. Mr. Ringer moved to West Virginia about 1830, and was one of the first settlers of Preston County. He became the owner of 300 acres of land, but some years later sold it and bought two places, comprising about 500 acres, joining each other, and became one of the successful farmers and stock-raisers of that section. On this farm he reared his family and spent the rest of an honorable and useful life, dying in 1873 at the age of seventy-three years. His widow passed away in 1877. Their family consisted of eight children: John, who married and reared a family, became a successful farmer, and died when about sixty-two years; Elizabeth is the wife of Harrison M. Smith of this county; Matilda is the wife of Joseph Bishop of this county; Maria resides with her brother Joseph M.; Susan is the wife of Samuel T. Darby, also of this county; William M. is a farmer and resides near Terra Alta, and Lucinda is

the wife of John J. Gripple, of Preston County. Joseph N. Ringer received common-school advantages in his youth, but it can be said that the greater part of his education is self-acquired and is of a very practical kind. Upon reaching man's estate, he started out to fight life's battle for himself and spent about one year in the West in Illinois and Iowa, following carpentering in Agency City and Des Moines in the latter State. After a short time spent in Illinois he returned to Preston County, West Virginia, and continued to follow building for several years. On the 20th of April, 1864, he was married to Miss Harriet A. Griebble, a native of this county, and a daughter of Archibald Griebble, and soon after formed a partnership with his father in the purchase and operation of a flouring mill at Muddy Creek in Pleasant District, and to the conduct of this business they devoted their time and energies until the death of the father. Joseph N. Ringer then continued the business alone and during the thirty years that he followed this occupation he succeeded financially. In April, 1891, he sold this mill, moved to Terra Alta, and bought some residence property. In 1892, he erected a business house and in June, 1895, stocked it with a general line of merchandise, and notwithstanding the fact that he has been in business but a short time he has succeeded far beyond his expectations and has gained a wide patronage. His goods are well selected and extensive, are sold at reasonable figures and the honesty always displayed by Mr. Ringer and his desire to please those who patronize him have added largely to his success. He has three children: Orne Wesley, who is associated with his father in the mercantile business; Laura Rebecca, wife of S. L. Snyder, resides at Keyser, West Virginia, and Nora Jane, who is still with her parents. Mr. Ringer is a Democrat politically and his first Presidential vote was cast for James Buchanan in 1856. Socially he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, and he and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at Terra Alta.

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## HON. PRESLEY M. HALE.

One of the most positive truths taught by modern science is, that mental and physical qualities are hereditary in man, and this statement of fact is as old as Moses, who declared that the generations to come should feel the influence of the father's actions.

The subject of this sketch is descended from a worthy ancestry, and owes his vigor of body and his strong mentality to his parents and his parents' parents. He was born within three miles of Morgantown, Virginia, August 25, 1826, being the youngest son of Abram and Sarah (Taylor) Hale, who were also natives of the Old Dominion. The former was reared in Monongalia County, and in early life was a soldier of the War of 1812. After his marriage he, in 1833, moved with his family to Henry County, Indiana, and there the father eventually passed from life. His father was a native of England, but crossed the ocean to this country during colonial times and settled in Virginia. He assisted the colonists in their struggle for independence during the Revolution, and in consequence was ever after a most thoroughly patriotic citizen. After many years spent on Virginia soil, he removed to Indiana, and there passed from life. The maternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, George Taylor, was a native Virginian, and was a Methodist minister of considerable celebrity, and one of the pioneers of the western part of the State. Presley M. Hale accompanied his parents to the Hoosier State, where he remained until about 1847, when he returned to his native State, and resided in Fairmont and Brownsville, Pennsylvania, until 1849, when he was united in marriage with Miss Sina Elizabeth Shore. In 1849, he came to Weston, West Virginia, and was first engaged in the hat manufacturing business and in other mercantile work until 1862, the latter portion of this time being a member of the firm of Hale, Vandervort & Jackson. At the above-mentioned date the entire stock of the firm was destroyed by Confederate soldiers. Mr. Hale then continued the business alone for some years, when he was again raided by the Confederates. At the opening of the Civil War he was strongly in favor of the preservation of the Union, and called a meeting of the loyal citizens of Weston to meet at his store for the purpose of mutual protection and the defense of the Union. Although the movement met with great opposition, it was finally successful, and soon after, in response to a call for a mass-meeting at Wheeling, he assembled with a number of the loyal citizens of the State, and the result was the organization of a State Government in opposition to secession, during the memorable convention of June, 1861. He was then elected to the Legislature of the reorganized Government of Virginia, and served in this capacity also in 1863, under the Government of West Virginia, during which time he was on many important committees, such as humane and criminal institutions, free schools and on military affairs. By a personal appeal to General George B. McClellan, at Grafton, he succeeded in having him send the first Government

troops to Lewis County, which arrived just in time to save the deposits in the Exchange Bank—\$28,000 in gold—intended for the construction of the Hospital for the Insane, together with all the books, etc., which were taken by Mr. List to Wheeling for safe keeping. His fidelity to the flag of his country made him a marked man among the Confederates. After his retirement from the Legislature he returned home and began devoting his attention to building and contracting, since which time he has put up about two-thirds of the best houses in Weston, including the court house, jail, and a large addition to the Hospital for the Insane. He also for a time owned and operated a large brickyard, but has discontinued it recently. In 1856 he was called upon to mourn the death of his wife, who left him with two small children: Flora Lynn and Curtis. In 1858, Miss Eliza Butcher became his second wife, and has borne him one son, Thomas. She is a member of the Episcopal Church, while Mr. Hale, from early manhood, has been a sincere advocate of universal salvation, and has done all in his power to liberalize the sentiment of free thought, and to rid the minds of the people of what he terms "the pagan superstition of endless misery." He has been a close Bible student for about fifty years, and is a strong believer in the doctrine of Universalism. He frequently writes on religious topics.

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### PROF. L. J. CORBLY.

Nothing is more becoming to a country, or affords better proof of the excellent spirit of its people than to find that they are interested in and working for the advancement of education. Thus it is in Harrison County, West Virginia, where the reward of popular praise and popular honors is bestowed upon those whose labor for the intellectual welfare and advancement of the rising generation is apparent to all. Prof. L. J. Corbly, superintendent of the Clarksburg City Schools, is well entitled to the enviable reputation he has acquired as a popular and successful educator. In the enthusiastic pursuit of his chosen profession he has awakened public sentiment to a higher appreciation of the benefits of education that will long redound to his memory. He was born in Tyler County, September 19, 1858, and is a son of A. L. and Miranda (Moore) Corbly. His early life was passed on his

father's farm and his elementary education received in the common schools. Later he attended the State Normal School at Fairmont, and after finishing his course there entered the university at Morgantown, but not until he had taught school in Taylor, Ritchie and Wood Counties. He was graduated from the university in the class of 1890, prepared to enter upon his career as an educator. He studied law for some time, but preferred the profession of teaching and after leaving college was offered the position of superintendent of the City Schools of Water Valley, Mississippi. After two years he resigned to pursue higher studies, but before doing so accepted the school at Clarksburg as superintendent, and has been here since. In the line of educational work he became the editor and publisher of the Public School Mirror of Water Valley, which was adopted at the State Teachers' Association as the State school journal. When he moved to West Virginia he published the paper at Clarksburg, where he became associated with A. J. Wilkinson, principal of the Grafton school, as associate editor. The paper met the approval of all educated people and has a flattering circulation in all the States of the Union. The professor gives his attention to the languages in his school, and is popular with all his pupils. For years he has been a member of the Masonic Fraternity, and in politics is a prominent Democrat and an active worker for his party. He was married in New Cumberland, Hancock County, West Virginia, to Miss Lizzie A. Holland, who was educated in the High School here and in the West Liberty School, and subsequently attended the Normal University, at Nashville, Tennessee. She taught school for some time and is an alert, well-educated and modern woman. Mr. Corbly is now in Germany, where he has gone to complete his education. Before returning from Europe he will study the merits and defects of the European schools in order to do better work at home. The Mirror has been moved to Morgantown, West Virginia, and is still under his control and management.

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## DR. JAMES M. BOWCOCK.

The profession of the physician and surgeon is one that has drawn to it, at all periods of its history, the brightest and most honorable of men, for none but an intelligent, well-informed man could be a physician at all, and no physician but a man of honor could long retain a profitable practice. Clarks-

burg, West Virginia, has been fortunate in possessing among its "medicine men" Dr. James M. Bowcock, who was born in Albemarle County, Virginia, March 1, 1829, a son of Colonel John J. and Sarah (Barkdale) Bowcock, the former of whom was born in 1803, also in Albemarle County. He possessed many of the most worthy traits of his Scotch ancestors and became one of the thrifty and industrious farmers of that county and a successful and enterprising merchant. His broad intelligence brought him into public notice and he held many official positions, successfully filling the office of Justice of the Peace for thirty years. He also represented his county in the Virginia State Legislature, was for thirty years presiding Justice of the county and at one time ably filled the position of Sheriff. In 1892 he paid the last debt of nature at his old home in Virginia, having attained the advanced age of eighty-nine years, seventy of which were devoted to the duties of elder of the Presbyterian Church. In ante-bellum days he was an old-line Whig in politics and became well known all over the State. His widow still survives him and lives on the old homestead in Albemarle County. She is also a member of the Presbyterian Church, and in this faith she and her husband reared their children, whom they named as follows: William H., who is living near the old home place; Dr. James M., whose name heads this sketch; Jane M., who is the widow of J. H. Burnley; Charles S., a successful physician of Albemarle County, Virginia; Jesse L., who resides in Rockingham County, Virginia; Eliza C., who died at the age of six years; John O., who is living in Albemarle County, and Sarah, the widow of George Thrift. Both Jesse and William H. were soldiers of the Union army during the Civil War. The mother of these children was the daughter of Nelson Barksdale and Jane (Lewis) Barksdale, both natives of Albemarle County, where many members of the family still reside. Mr. Barksdale was a well-known farmer, was Sheriff of the county at one time and after a well-spent life died at about the time the Civil War was opened. His wife was a daughter of Jesse Lewis, a soldier of the Revolution, and an active participant in the engagement at Yorktown. He was a personal friend of Thomas Jefferson and after a life of usefulness and more than ordinary prominence he died in 1849. He was born in 1763 and was but sixteen years of age when he enlisted as a soldier in the Colonial army. Dr. James M. Bowcock was reared and educated in his native county, and after attending the common schools for some time was instructed by private tutors and finished his literary education in the University of Virginia. He later entered Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated in 1850. Six



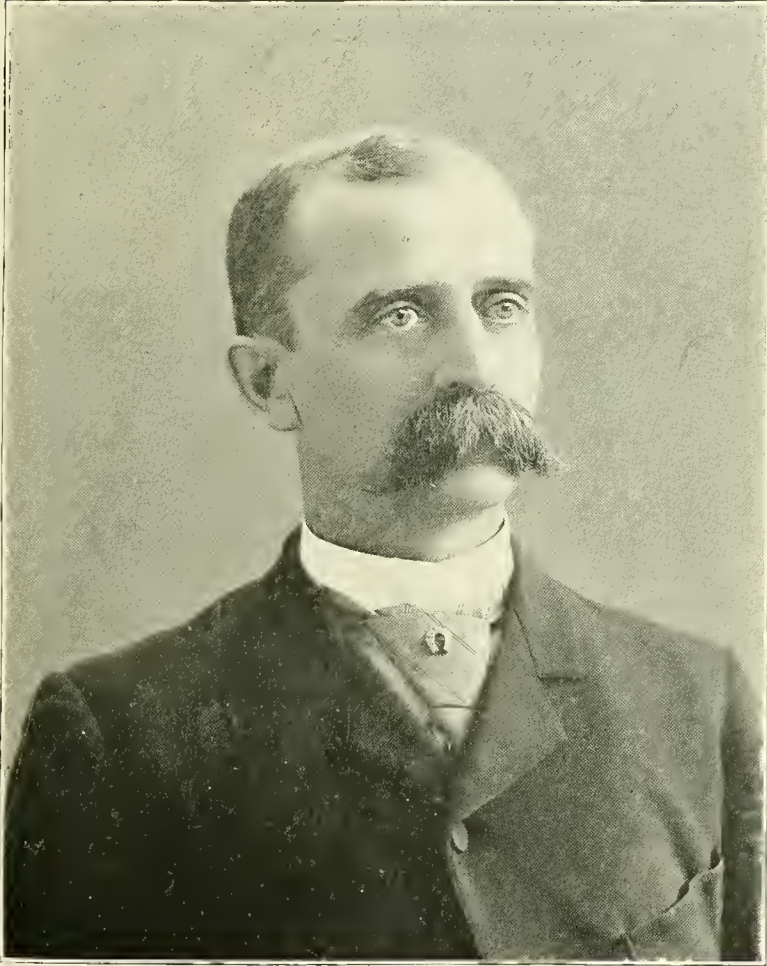
years later he came to Clarksburg, and has since been very actively engaged in a general practice. He is able, experienced and reliable, and his name is an honor to the profession which he has so long adorned. During the Civil War he was a staunch Union man, but in his political views is in sympathy with the Democratic party, the men and measures of which he supports. He established the first hospital in this section during the war, was contract surgeon at the time, and was located at Clarksburg. He is one of the foremost citizens of the county, has held many offices of trust in Clarksburg, and socially is a member of Harmon Lodge No. 8, of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons at Clarksburg, of which he was Master for seven years. The doctor was married in 1852 in Morgan County to Miss Anna Baker, daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth (Kinney) Baker, who were originally from Frederick County, Virginia. Mr. Baker died in Clarksburg in 1854, and his wife in Morgan County. They reared two children: Susan and Mrs. Bowcock. The latter was born in Morgan County, April 23, 1834, and is still living. She has borne the doctor five children: John W., one of the leading medical practitioners of Clarksburg; Charles M. is a successful physician of Springfield, Illinois, is married and has one child, Harold M.; Sarah E. is the wife of Charles W. Blackwood, and has one daughter, Anna J; Susan S. is the wife of E. C. Martz, of Harrisburg, Virginia, and Flora D. is the wife of J. G. Kuykindall, of Charleston, by whom she has one child, James E.; Ida died at the age of thirteen years. The doctor and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church and have one of the finest homes in Clarksburg, situated on Main Street. Their son, Dr. John W. Bowcock, first saw the light of day in Clarksburg, July 15, 1856. He received a good education in Northwest Academy at Clarksburg, and the Belmont High School of Virginia, graduating from the latter institution. He entered Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia in the Fall of 1877, and was graduated in March, 1879, after which he at once returned to Clarksburg. He has devoted himself to general practice and has proven himself an able, trustworthy and conscientious practitioner. He has been Secretary of the United States Board of Pension Examiners since 1885, with the exception of a few months, and has been the examiner for several insurance companies. He is a member of the Harrison County Medical Association and was at one time surgeon for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company. He is a very skillful surgeon and a large portion of his time has been devoted to that branch of the science. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge at Clarksburg, has passed all the chairs in that order, belongs to Temple Lodge No.

12 of the Ancient Order United Workmen, Clarksburg Lodge No. 39, of the Knights of Pythias, and is a member of the Uniformed Rank, Division No. 5, First Regiment of West Virginia. He is one of the most prominent of the young men of the section of the State in which he lives, and politically supports Democratic principles. The doctor was married to Miss Alice E. Willis, of Clarksburg, the daughter of Rev. E. J. Willis, the founder of Broadus Female College of that place. He came from Richmond, Virginia, to Clarksburg, in 1876, and here died some years ago. He was for some time an attorney-at-law, but later became an active minister of the Baptist Church. He was one of the famous "Forty-niners," and while in California was made a Judge, and during his term of office sentenced the first two men who were hanged in that region after it had become a State. He served as Captain of a company in a Virginia Regiment, Confederate States of America, during the Civil War. Mrs. Bowcock was educated at Braddus College. She has borne the doctor two sons: James M., Jr., aged ten, and Edward Willis, aged four. Not only is the doctor prominent in professional circles, but in social circles also, and his wife is one of the social leaders of Clarksburg.

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## JUDGE WILLIAM GEORGE BENNETT.

The learned professions have many disciples who aspire to honor and dignity in their chosen fields, and all with greater or less reason to expect their efforts to be crowned with success. Judge William George Bennett is one of the many to woo the fickle goddess of fortune before the bench and bar, nor has he aspired without cause, for nature has gifted him generously with those qualities that make themselves felt in the legal profession, and his career on the bench was marked by dignity, a far-seeing knowledge of men and motives and a most thorough knowledge of the law. He was born in Lewis County in 1847, the eldest of four children born to Jonathan McCally and Margaret Elizabeth (Jackson) Bennett, natives respectively of Virginia and Ohio. The paternal grandfather, William Bennett, was born in Pendleton County, Virginia, in 1775, purchased a farm in 1797 in what is now Lewis County, West Virginia, located on it the following year, and became one of the leading citizens of that section. He served on the first



*H. G. Bennett.*



grand jury of the county, and died in 1857. He was married to Miss McCally, a daughter of James McCally, an ex-Captain in the British Marines, who resigned from that navy and joined the Colonial forces in the Revolutionary War and spent the closing years of his life on his son-in-law's farm in Lewis County, on which he and his wife were buried. John Bennett, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a native of New Jersey, his ancestors having emigrated from London, and was with Braddock on his campaign in this country, and a participant in a number of battles. He afterward settled on the South Branch of the Potomac in what is now Pendleton County, West Virginia, where he spent the remainder of his days. Jonathan McCally Bennett was born October 4, 1816, on the farm in Lewis County that has now belonged to the family a century, and which he owned at the time of his death, October 28, 1887. He was the youngest child born to William and Rebecca (McCally) Bennett and was educated in the common schools, but afterward acquired a large fund of general information. He was reared on a farm, but in early youth became a deputy in the Clerk's office of Lewis County. His brother James was a lawyer, and became a member of the State Legislature, and another brother, David, also served in that body. Mr. Bennett also decided to study law, was admitted to the bar in 1843 and practiced law as a partner of G. D. Camden until the latter's elevation to the bench in 1852. He was the first Prosecuting Attorney of Gilmer County, and the first Mayor of Weston, in 1846, and in 1852 was elected to the State Legislature. He was then appointed by Governor Wise Auditor of Public Accounts of Virginia, a position he held until the close of the Civil War, and was universally pronounced the best Auditor the State ever had. His intimacy with Governor Wise enabled him to secure the location of the West Virginia Hospital for the Insane, at Weston, and in 1853 he was made president of the Exchange Bank of Virginia at that place. In 1858 he was before the Democratic Convention for the Congressional nomination and at one time came within a few votes of being elected. At the opening of the war he sided with the South and filled a number of important positions at Richmond. With the return of peace he resumed his law practice at Weston, but was soon after one of the commissioners appointed by Governor Jacobs to adjust with Virginia the proportion of the debt due to each State, and prepared as chairman of the Finance Committee of the West Virginia Senate the most complete report on that question that was ever prepared. He filled a number of positions for the new State, always with satisfaction to all concerned, and to his own credit. He was instrumental in securing "Stonewall"

Jackson's appointment to West Point, and they were warm personal friends throughout life. His sons have a letter in which General Jackson offers him a position on his staff. He was a most successful business man, had invested largely in West Virginia lands, and left a large estate, which is now very valuable. A hard student, a painstaking official, a business man of strict integrity, a zealous, public-spirited citizen, a kind and accommodating neighbor, a loving husband and father, his death was felt as a personal loss by one and all. He became a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in 1850, was a representative to the Grand Lodge in 1855-6, in 1857 was made Past Grand, and was buried with the honors of that order. He left two sons and two daughters: Gertrude, wife of Dr. Fleming Howell, of Clarksburg; Mary Lee, wife of William D. Bowie, son of Governor Bowie, of Maryland; William G. and Louis. The father-in-law of Mr. Bennett, Captain George W. Jackson, obtained his title in the War of 1812, and was for a number of years afterward a Captain in the Regular Army of the United States. He was a son of George Jackson, a member of the Constitutional Convention of Virginia that adopted the Federal Constitution, and he was also a brother of John G. Jackson, a member of Congress and the first Federal Judge in the Western District of Virginia. Another brother, Dr. Edward Jackson, was also a member of Congress from Virginia, and all were prominent people. He was a cousin of the famous General "Stonewall" Jackson, the latter being his lifelong intimate friend and protégé. His son, A. H. Jackson, was a Colonel on General Jackson's staff. Captain G. W. Jackson resided for a few years in Ohio to settle his father's estate, but from that time until his death in 1876 made his home in West Virginia. He was a fine-looking and scholarly gentleman. William George Bennett attended the schools of Richmond and graduated at the Virginia Military Institute in 1866, at the age of nineteen. Soon after entering this institution, he participated in the battle of Newmarket, in 1864, being ordered out to join Breckinridge's command, and in that engagement about one-third of the cadets were either killed or wounded. He entered upon his law practice at Weston, and although criminal practice was not congenial to him, yet for years he was engaged on a large majority of all criminal cases docketed in the counties in which he practiced, and only lost one case. In 1888 he was elected Judge of his district, and is now discharging the duties of that office, as his judicial term will not expire until December 31, 1897. The district is composed of the counties of Upshur, Lewis, Braxton, Nichols and Webster. Some of the land owned by the Judge is the old Bennett homestead, which has been in the family since

1797, and a farm known as the "Riverside Stock Farm," on which "Stonewall" Jackson in his youth, often trained the boys of the vicinity in military tactics. He has been interested in the raising of fine stock for years, and makes a specialty of race horses. He has a stud of about seventy animals, some of which are the best bred in the United States, and many are imported. Always active in politics, he was a popular candidate for the nomination to the Governorship in 1892. He was one of the incorporators of the West Virginia Railroad, was long a director, and is now a stockholder, organized the first County Fair ever held in this county and was a member of the first Building and Loan Association. Mr. Bennett is an enthusiastic Mason and has been honored with the highest positions possible in the Grand Lodge of West Virginia—Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar. The Judge was married in 1872 to Miss Alice Brannon, a daughter of Judge John Brannon, and they have a family of six children: John Brannon, Margaret, Hunter McCally, Bertha, William George (deceased), and William Bland. Mr. Bennett's mother was Amanda Bland, a descendant of Theodric Bland, of Virginia, who married a daughter of Governor Bennett, of Virginia.

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## GUS J. SHAFFER.

The practical value of shrewdness and discrimination combined with strict probity is exemplified in the prosperous condition of those who transact business on these principles. Mr. Shaffer is a man who has kept fully abreast of the times in the matter of enterprise, and is considered one of the most substantial and useful citizens of Kingwood, West Virginia. He is engaged in the manufacture of lumber, staves, etc., and as a dealer in lumber has become widely and favorably known. He was born in Union District of the county in which he now lives, January 15, 1847, and his father, Daniel Shaffer, was also born here in 1805. His grandfather was a native of Germany, being born and reared on the banks of the historic Rhine, amid the grandest natural scenery known to man, and early in life he became a subject of "Uncle Sam," and eventually one of the pioneer settlers of what is now West Virginia, and here reared his family. He named the stream upon

whose banks he settled after the river of his native country. Upon reaching manhood Daniel Shaffer was married to Miss Elizabeth Isenhart, a native of Cumberland, Maryland, and as a means of supporting himself and those dependent on him he followed the occupation of blacksmithing at Carmel, which business he conducted with success until his death in 1863. He became prominent in the section in which he lived, served in the capacity of Justice of the Peace for twenty-four years, and while officiating as Deputy County Clerk, he issued many marriage licenses. His widow survived him until 1893. Their family consisted of five sons and three daughters: George F., who is a minister of the Lutheran Church; Susan is the wife of Thomas Humberston, of Frostburg, Maryland; Martin L. is a prominent citizen of this county, has served as County Sheriff, and in other official capacities, and is now a resident of Newburgh; Priscilla is the widow of James H. Wilson, who was a member of the State Legislature in 1874; Jesse W., who still resides at the homestead, and who has served many years as Justice of the Peace; Mary is the wife of George Lantz, of this county; Gus J., the subject of this sketch, and Arthur, who is engineer on the West Virginia Central Railroad. Gus J. Shaffer grew up in this county and received the advantages of the common schools, although much of his education is self-acquired. Upon reaching man's estate he engaged in merchandising at Fellowsville, but about five months later was burned out. The following year he began manufacturing and dealing in lumber in Reno District at Rowlesburgh, and after remaining there between two and three years he went to Tunnelton and there continued the manufacture of lumber up to 1886. He was one of the original promoters of the Kingwood Railroad Company, and became one of its stockholders. Before the completion of the road he was elected superintendent and had charge of the track laying and continued to hold this position for one year after the road was in operation, then resigned. He soon after came to Kingwood and engaged in the lumber and mercantile business and at the present time has two saw mills in operation besides a large general mercantile establishment, which is prospering and growing in popularity under his able management. He handles large quantities of lumber; is quite an extensive shipper to Europe. He is an active and successful man of affairs and owes his prosperity to no one save himself, for in every respect he has been the architect of his own fortune. He has been married three times, first in this county to Miss Louisa Menefee, a native of Monongalia County, West Virginia, who died in 1880, leaving two children: Morris, who is on the West Virginia & Pittsburgh Railroad, and Elizabeth, who is with her father. His



next marriage was to Florence J., daughter of ex-Sheriff Thomas, of Preston County, and to them three children were given: Frank, Harry and Jessie, who are attending the home school. His third marriage occurred in Ritchie County, West Virginia, in 1890, to the daughter of Rev. M. McNeal, a former pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Kingwood. Mr. Shaffer is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and also of the Uniform Rank of that order, and while not a member of any church organization, was reared in the Lutheran faith and adheres to its tenets. His wife is a Methodist, and much of his means is given to that church. Politically he is a Democrat, and in 1876 he was the candidate of his party for the office of Sheriff and ran 500 votes ahead of his ticket. In 1884, he was his party's candidate for the office of Clerk of the Circuit Court, and although his opponent was Smith Crane, one of the strongest Republicans of the county, he again ran 800 ahead of his ticket. In 1880 he was elected Justice of the Peace of Kingwood District and served four years in this capacity. He has been a delegate to numerous conventions and for years has taken an active part in every political campaign. He is well known in social and business circles as well as in the political arena and no man in the county stands higher in public estimation than does he.

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## LEMAN MAXWELL.

The Maxwell family, one of the wealthiest and most prominent in the State, was first represented in West Virginia by Abner Maxwell, grandfather of our subject, who was a native of Chester County, Penn. He came to Virginia at an early day, settled on Brown's Creek, Harrison County, and was a soldier in the War of 1812. Farming was his lifelong occupation. He was twice married, five children being born to his first union, as follows: Marshall, B. Franklin, Levi, Williams, and Mary. Seven children were the fruits of his second marriage: Lewis, Charles, Abner, James, Robert, Jane, and Amy. The father died about 1855. He was a well-known athlete, was never thrown in his life, and was noted far and wide for his great strength. The second child born to his first marriage was Benjamin Franklin Maxwell, the father of our subject. Benjamin was born on Brown's Creek, Harrison County, Virginia, in 1814, during the time his father was in the army.

He remained at home until about eighteen years old and was then employed for three years by Daniel Carper, of Upshur County, as a farm hand, receiving for his services \$100 a year. During this time he secured Carper's consent to go into the Valley of Virginia and cut up corn at fifty cents per day during the corn season, after which time he again returned to the employ of Daniel Carper, and at the end of his three years' service he received his \$300, and as he had a natural taste for handling cattle he next secured a steady place with his uncle, Lewis Maxwell, who was elected to Congress. He was employed to take charge of his uncle's cattle and spent the winter in that manner. Soon after he ventured into the cattle business on his own responsibility, went to Ohio and Kentucky, where he purchased cattle to bring to Virginia. Here he wintered, grazed and marketed them, and in this way made a start. He continued the cattle business during life and as fast as the money accumulated he invested in land, becoming at one time the owner of about 110,000 acres. He sold some land, but at the time of his death, which occurred July 4, 1892, he was the owner of about 80,000 acres, which is now held by his heirs. Besides he owned a large amount of personal property, and was in truth the "cattle king" of West Virginia. He controlled the cattle market of his day, was to be found at almost all times in the saddle, and his daily rides at certain seasons were eighty miles. He was a man of wonderful endurance and unusual business acumen. He married Miss Frances J. Reynolds, a daughter of John Reynolds of Virginia, who was a slave-owner and prominent farmer. Ten children were born to them, but one died young—M. Martha. The others were: Leman (subject), Lewis, Porter, Rector, W. Brent, Harriet, Virginia, Franklin and Susan. Mrs. Maxwell is still living and is a well-preserved old lady of seventy-six. Leman Maxwell was born in Doddridge County, West Virginia, November 30, 1840, on a farm, and at an early age was trained to the handling of stock and farming. As a consequence his education was neglected to some extent. He worked with and under the direction of his father until twenty-nine years of age, when he took charge of a farm and began the work of improving it and handling stock. Inheriting some of his father's ability he has met with good success and is to-day one of the substantial and well-known men of the State. He handles all kinds of stock, horses, cattle, sheep and some hogs, buying cattle in the fall and keeping them until the next fall when he sells to good advantage. His brother Lewis is a good shipper and they work together. He gives his entire attention to seeding and improving his land and grazing stock. In 1887 Mr. Maxwell married Miss Columbia Bassel, daughter of Henry

and Mary (Davis) Bassel, and granddaughter of Benjamin Bassel who came from Connecticut and settled in Clarksburg, West Virginia, in 1803. He served in the Legislature at Richmond, Virginia, and was Justice of the Peace for many years. His death occurred in 1856. Henry Bassel was a farmer and died February 15, 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell had born to their union three children: Leman B., born August 22, 1888; Franklin H., born June 20, 1891; and Mary F., born April 20, 1894. Mrs. Maxwell is a devout member of the Methodist Protestant Church. Mr. Maxwell takes considerable interest in public affairs, but does not aspire to office. He is a Democrat. His father served one term in the State Senate, but refused to serve longer.

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## JOHN W. GASTON.

A man's life work is the measure of his success. It is the duty of every man to make the best use of his native and acquired powers and to develop in himself a true manhood. Thus it has been with John W. Gaston, a prominent farmer and stockman of Union District, Harrison County. He was born in Grant District, this county, in 1838, to the union of William and Mary (Post) Gaston, natives of Harrison County, this State. The father was born in 1806 and the mother a few years later and both spent their entire lives in this county, he dying May 21, 1894, and she December 4, 1887, when seventy-eight years old. They were Protestant Methodists, he for over half a century. Mr. Gaston followed farming for a livelihood, and although he had received but little education, he was a rapid calculator and a wide-awake, thorough-going man. He was possessed of an iron constitution and was seldom sick. In politics he was a Whig until after the war and then joined the Democratic ranks. His father, John Gaston, came from New Jersey to Harrison County many years ago and died here before our subject was born. He was a blacksmith. His wife's maiden name was Anna Davisson. She died in Harrison County when eighty-two years old, and had ten living children at that time. Now all are deceased. One of them, Hughey, lived to be one hundred years old. Our subject's maternal grandfather, George Post, was well known in the early history of the county of Harrison. He was a blacksmith and farmer and died when quite aged. His wife, Elizabeth, died

here too. William and Mary (Post) Gaston became the parents of six children, as follows: Abraham, of Lewis County; George, of Lewis County; Elizabeth, widow of John Dawson; John W. (subject); Enoch; and Bird, the wife of Edward N. Smith. In the log school house of early days our subject received the rudiments of an education. He became familiar with all the duties of farm life at an early age and when thrown on his own resources selected agricultural pursuits as his calling in life. In the year 1859 he married Mariah Burnside, a native of Harrison County, and the daughter of James and Rebecca Burnside, natives of Harrison County, where they passed their entire days, the father dying in 1890 and the mother January 6, 1895. Their domestic life was a happy one of fifty-four years. Both were Methodists. Mrs. Gaston's grandfather, John Burnside, came from Ireland when a young man and on the same vessel with a young lady, a Miss Nancy Summerville, who afterward became his wife. To our subject and wife were born these children: Liemie, wife of George Davis of Gilmer County; George Lee, Hiram, James, Mary, and Aldia. Mr. Gaston resided in Grant District until 1890 and since then on his present farm which consists of 186 acres. In connection with farming he, like many of his neighbors, has been handling stock and has met with fair success. Both he and wife belong to the oldest families of Harrison County and are influential and prominent citizens. Both hold membership in the Protestant Methodist Church. In his politics Mr. Gaston leans toward the Democratic party, and his first Presidential vote was cast for Breckinridge in 1860.

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## JACKSON V. BLAIR.

No man in West Union, West Virginia, is more liked and respected than Jackson V. Blair, who has achieved distinction at the bar, and who has made a name for himself as a public-spirited citizen and promoter of new enterprises. He was born in Harrison County, Virginia, now West Virginia, April 16, 1853, to the marriage of George B. and Harriet (Morgan) Blair, natives of that county.

The Blair family came, originally, from Scotland, and the first member to locate in America was William Blair, Jr., the great-grandfather of our

subject, who settled in Philadelphia, where he married Miss Martha McCullough, a lady of culture and refinement. He had been educated in Scotland for a Presbyterian minister; but after his marriage, he engaged in business, and soon became a pioneer, removing to Harrison County, Virginia, about the date of its formation. The deed for his land, receipted for the price, £50 sterling, was recorded in the first deed book in the county. He died January 27, 1832. His eldest son, Dr. Alexander A. Blair, the grandfather of our subject, was born November 27, 1792, in Harrison County, where he passed the closing scenes of his life. His wife was Mary Arnold, whose sister, Roana, was the first wife of Hon. Samuel Hays, a member of Congress, known as the "Backwoods Orator," and who was also a delegate to the noted Constitutional Convention of Virginia, in 1850 and 1851. The other children born unto William and Martha Blair, were James, George, William M. and Rachel. William M. was Colonel of the Militia or State troops for a long time. (See life of Prof. Wm. M. Blair, *supra*.)

There were born unto Dr. Alex. A. and Mary Blair three sons and three daughters: William Arnold, James Lewis, George Brown, Martha, Elizabeth and Roana. George B. was the youngest and learned the tailor's trade under the father of the late lamented Judge Charles S. Lewis, who learned and worked at the trade at the same time, at Clarksburg, West Virginia. On January 20, 1852, George B. married Miss Harriet Morgan, daughter of Morgan Morgan, a grandson of David Morgan, of Indian fighting fame, hereinafter mentioned. The first of this family to come to America was Morgan Morgan, who was born in the Principality of Wales and educated in London in the reign of King William III. He came to the Province of Delaware in the reign of Queen Anne, where he married Catherine Garretson, after which he moved to the Valley of Virginia. Being an ordained clergyman of the Church of England, he established a church at Winchester, of which he and his son, Morgan Morgan, Jr., were pastors for many years. (See Bishop Mead's Book, "The Churches and Families of Virginia," and "Hawks' History of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Virginia.")

Hon. Virgil A. Lewis, State Superintendent of Free Schools, and a writer of note, on the 17th of January, 1895, read a paper before the Historical Society of West Virginia, the introductory part of which was as follows:

"It is very common to hear West Virginia spoken of as a new State, when in reality it is one of the old States. Two hundred and twenty-five years since

John Lederer, Sir William Berkeley's authorized explorer, was on the mountains of Hampshire and in the Valley of the Cheat River. It is one hundred and seventy-nine years since Alexander Spottswood, with the "Knights of the Golden Horseshoe," drank to the health of King George on one of the loftiest peaks of the Alleghenies, in what is now Pendleton County; and one hundred and sixty-nine years since Morgan Morgan reared the first cabin home within the present limits of West Virginia."

His son David was a surveyor, and served with Colonel Washington in 1746 on the commission to locate and establish the northern boundary of the Fairfax Estate, which was to be the line between Virginia and Maryland. He assisted in erecting that historic monument, the "Fairfax Stone," and afterward aided General Washington in locating and taking up what is known as "The Washington Bottoms." In 1771, David moved to what is now Marion County, about six miles north of Fairmont. Dr. De Hass in his "History of Virginia," says of this adventurer: "Of those who moved with their families to Prickett's Fort was David Morgan, one of the earliest settlers on the frontier, and a man of great energy of character and of sterling worth. He was a near relative of General Daniel Morgan of Revolutionary memory, and like that distinguished officer, possessed in a high degree courage and capacity for almost any emergency."

Our subject has a book in his library, which he prizes very highly as a relic, it having belonged to and contains the autograph of his distinguished relative, David Morgan, for an interesting sketch of whose life see the Morgantown Post of November 2, 1889, and as to his adventures with the Indians, see "Border Warfare," by Withers.

Another member of this family was Colonel Zacquil, founder of Morgantown, the "Athens of West Virginia."

Unto the marriage of George B. and Harriet Morgan Blair were born five children, of whom Jackson V. is the eldest. The names of the others are: Morgan F., Mary, Thomas J., and William A., all of whom, and the father, are living. These parents were members of the Baptist Church. This family circle was broken by the death of the mother, February 4, 1864, soon after which the subject of this sketch, then a lad of about eleven years, started out to fight his own way in life. For some time, he worked as a farm hand, attending school during the Winter seasons, and studying at nights and on "wet days" the year round. At about the age of seventeen, he came to Doddridge County, where he engaged as a laborer on the lumber works of Captain M. Donohue and Judge C. J. Stuart. The following Winter he taught school,

and continued to labor and teach until 1873, when he entered the State Normal School at Fairmont, where he finished the course and received his diploma June, 1875. On his return to his adopted county, he was elected Superintendent of Free Schools; and the schools so prospered under his able management that the people recognized his true worth, and although a Democrat in a Republican County, they re-elected him for another term of two years. He taught at the Weston Academy one term, and was principal of the West Union Graded School in 1876. In the meantime, and at the solicitation of his former employer, Judge Stuart, he read law with him; was examined by Judges Charles S. Lewis, Okey Johnson and James M. Jackson, Jr., who licensed him to practice May 22, 1877. He immediately entered into partnership with Judge Stuart, this social relation lasting until the Spring of 1886, since which time he has been conducting business alone. He now stands at the head of the bar of this county, and has taken part in most of the criminal cases.

He was appointed by Governor A. B. Fleming, Judge Advocate of the First Regiment, West Virginia National Guards, with the rank of Major, and as such member of the Governor's staff, in which capacity he attended with the Governor and staff the dedication of the World's Fair Buildings. At the close of Governor Fleming's term he resigned the trust.

Mr. Blair is a stockholder and attorney for the West Union Bank. He took an active part in its organization. He is interested in the oil development of his county, owns real estate in and out of town, the accumulation of his own labors.

In July, 1879, Mr. Blair married Miss Ella M. Smith, who was born December 15, 1859, and who is a daughter of Captain F. M. F. and Julia A. Smith, the father, a native of "Old Virginia," and the mother, a daughter of the late Matthew Neely, of this county. Captain S. is a relative of ex-Governor Smith, of Virginia, known as "Extra Billy," and who in his day was a great campaigner, and was the "War Governor" of the "Old Dominion."

To Mr. and Mrs. Blair have been born: Julia, Smith, William Eldridge, Anne Morgan, Jackson V., Jr., and George Neely, six bright and active children for whom he says, he "delights to labor and the good mother prays."

Mr. Blair has been Chairman of the County Democratic Executive Committee for over ten years, and has often been favorably mentioned by the press for Congress for the First District and for Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit. Politically, he is never found working for himself, but always for some friend. Socially he is a Mason, being a Knight Templar, Thirty-second

Degree, Scottish Rite, and a Noble of the Mystic Shrine. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias Lodges.

Mr. Blair is small of stature, weighs about 135 pounds, complexion fair, eyes gray, expression open and frank. He attributes his success to his early application to study, to his industry, the aid of a devoted wife, the patronage of the good people among whom he lives, and the indulgence of the Creator of all.

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## DAVID L. HALL.

Harrison County is conspicuous for its fine farms that are faultless in the way of management and the order in which they are kept. Those in Union District are especially advantageously located, the land being very fertile and productive. Among the prominent farmers and stockmen of this locality is David L. Hall, whose commodious house, well-filled barns and granaries, and broad acres attract the attention of all. Mr. Hall was born in Harrison County, in 1840, and in that county his parents, Martin E. and Jane (Webb) Hall, were also born, the former April 12, 1796, and the latter in 1808. Their happy married life extended almost over two-thirds of a century and the children that blessed this union were named as follows: Edgar M. died when a child; Oscar F., of Harrison County; Orin P. was killed by a log rolling over him; Sylvanus died when young; Elizabeth died young; Emily also died young, as did also Eliza. Our subject was eighth in order of birth, then Emeline; Martha, wife of L. W. Davis; Lovema (deceased) and Almira M., wife of George P. McConkey. The father of these children was a soldier in the War of 1812, and he was Colonel of the militia for a number of years. He was a hard-working man and by his industry accumulated considerable means. He was probably the only child of Samuel Hall, who was born in Pennsylvania, but at an early date came to Harrison County, where he died soon after the marriage of his son. The grandfather, John Webb, was also an early settler of Harrison County, where he died before our subject was born. He was a farmer. Our subject's educational advantages were necessarily limited during his youth for as soon as old enough he took part in the home work. On the 14th of August, 1862, he joined Company B, Seventeenth Virginia Cavalry, and served in the Army of Northern Virginia,



fighting in the valley campaign of 1863. Gettysburg, Boonsborough and in the Richmond campaign. He surrendered at Appomattox C. H., but did not return home until 1866. In 1872 he married Miss Sarah McPherson, a native of Elk District, Harrison County, and the daughter of Jonathan and Euphrania (Pew) McPherson, the father being a farmer and a native of Harrison County. Mr. and Mrs. Hall are the parents of five children: Euphrania, Hattie, wife of H. D. Gaston; Belle J., Ivy M., Ray L. (living), and Freddie L. (deceased). Mrs. Hall, who was an earnest member of the Methodist Church, died April 15, 1892. Mr. Hall has followed farming all his life; since 1888 has resided on his present place near the mouth of Sycamore Creek, six miles southwest of Clarksburg. He has 390 acres of tillable land and is quite an extensive stock trader. He is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Jackson Lodge No. 35, at Good Hope, and the Junior Order American Mechanics, at West Milford, and is a member of the Methodist Church. Politically he is a Democrat, voting first for Breck-enridge, in 1860. In 1880, Mr. Hall was elected a Justice of the Peace for Union District, Harrison County, a position he very ably filled. He was his party's candidate in 1894, for the House of Delegates, but was engulfed with others of his party in the political avalanche of that year.

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## J. H. RODEHEAVER.

Throughout Mr. Rodeheaver's entire business career, his conservative business principles, combined with enterprise and energy, rendered success inevitable. He has been successfully engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in Terra Alta since the Fall of 1883, and in addition to this has been profitably engaged in the manufacture and sale of furniture in Preston County for over a quarter of a century. He was born March 16, 1845, a son of Colonel John Rodeheaver, and both father and son were born on the same farm. His paternal grandfather, John Rodeheaver, was of German parentage, and with his father was one of the first settlers of Preston County. In this section, Colonel John Rodeheaver, the father of our subject, grew to manhood, and married Roanna Jenkins, a native of this county and daughter of John Jenkins, another of the honored old-time settlers of this section. Colonel Rode-

heaver was at one time Captain of a company of militia, and later became Colonel of the One Hundred and Fourth Regiment West Virginia Militia. He was one of the leading farmers of the county, and was also an extensive cattle dealer. He owned and used the first threshing machine and the first mower and reaper in the county, which serves to illustrate the progressive spirit which kept him always up with the times. He was a practical and shrewd business man, and everything which he undertook resulted in substantial rewards. He served for years as a Magistrate of this county, and was prominent in all its affairs. His death December 22, 1891, at the age of seventy-seven years, ended a useful and well-spent life. His wife passed away some eighteen years previously, and after her death he married a second time. His second wife is still living.

J. H. Rodeheaver was one of two sons and two daughters who reached mature years; Martha, the wife of James C. Feather, a farmer of this county; J. H.; John F., who married Martha Williams and resides on the old home farm; and Missouri O., who became the wife of Joseph Morgan and is deceased. J. H. Rodeheaver received his scholastic training in the common schools of the county; and, although reared on a farm, possessed such natural aptitude for mechanics that at an early day he began working at the cabinet trade. Later he purchased a shop and tools, and for fifteen years gave his time and attention to the manufacture of furniture at Albrightsville. He then sold out his interests there, and in 1883 moved to Terra Alta, where he erected a commodious and substantial business house, and has since been engaged in the retail furniture business. He carries in addition, carpets and undertaking goods, and owned and used in his business the first hearse in the county. In his business relations with the public, he endeavors to do what is fair and right, and is courteous and obliging to his patrons. In 1869 he was united in marriage to Miss Margaret S. Morgan, a native of this county, who was educated in the schools of this section and of Pennsylvania. Her father, David Morgan, a descendant of the Morgans of Indian fame, now resides on the farm upon which was the fort of the white men in those turbulent times, and upon which may yet be seen evidences of the red man. Mr. and Mrs. Rodeheaver have two children: Metta M. and Joseph Ray, who have now arrived at maturity. They were educated at the Methodist Conference Seminary, of Buckhannon, West Virginia, and now make their home with their parents. Joseph Ray is a partner in the furniture business, under the firm name of J. H. Rodeheaver & Son. Having purchased a flouring mill in the Town of Terra Alta, West Virginia, in the Fall of 1894,

Mr. Rodeheaver gives much attention to the manufacture of buckwheat flour. Politically Mr. Rodeheaver is a Democrat, and he and his family are members of the Terra Alta Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is one of the stewards. He is well and favorably known throughout this and adjoining counties, and his upright life and many sterling qualities have won for him the honor and esteem of all who know him.

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## E. J. FREDLOCK.

The activity which characterizes every branch and department of trade and commerce is due to the initiative energy and enterprise of the leading representative merchants in each line. This is eminently true of E. J. Fredlock, whose energy and enterprise have led him to engage in several occupations and his good sense and foresight to carry them to success. The name of Fredlock is well known in West Virginia and Maryland, for it has been intimately connected with the manufacturing and commercial interests of these commonwealths for many years, and is the synonym of honesty, industry and business integrity. Sturdy and honest German blood flows in the veins of these worthy people and the father of the subject of this sketch, John H. Fredlock, was a worthy and exemplary man. He was born near the city of Bremen, Germany, there grew to manhood and was married. Some time after he took passage on a vessel for America and upon reaching this country he settled in Garrett County, Maryland, where he devoted himself to agricultural pursuits and spent the last years of his life. All his brothers were soldiers in the Franco-Prussian war and were killed while in the service. E. J. Fredlock and one sister, S. M., who is the wife of William Sensney, of Parkersburg, West Virginia, are the only survivors of the children born to John H. Fredlock and wife. The childhood days of the subject of this sketch were spent in Garrett County, Maryland, and on the home farm he continued to labor up to the age of thirteen years, at which time his father's career was closed by death. He served a three years' apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, and secured a thorough knowledge of this calling. He was then employed by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, for whom he was for four years engaged in the construction of bridges. In 1854 he came to Pied-

mont, at which time the place contained a few small houses, and assisted in the erection of the shops of the B. & O. R. R. He was afterward engaged in contracting and building up to 1859, then made his way to the Lone Star State and at Austin followed contracting and building for about four months, and from that time up to 1861 he was located at Chapel Hill. Owing to the great Civil War that was then ready to open, it then became very unpleasant, and perhaps dangerous, for Mr. Fredlock, who was a staunch Union man and a Republican, to remain longer in that section, and in May of that year he returned north to West Virginia and once more took up his residence at Piedmont, where he rented a flouring mill and for a few months before the railroads were open he did a rushing business. He then entered the shops of the B. & O. Road and for a few months was engaged in the construction of cars. In 1862 he went to Deer Park and there opened and had charge of a lumber yard for about two years in the interests of Senator H. G. Davis. He again returned to Piedmont in 1865 and purchased a building across the Potomac, in Western Port, Maryland, fitted it up with machinery and engaged in the manufacture of sash, doors, blinds, and building material generally, and at the same time was engaged in contracting and building and in the furniture and undertaking business. He successfully followed these various callings there up to 1869, when he decided that the town of Piedmont was better suited to his purposes and thither moved his shops and business. He fitted his establishment up with a fine lot of machinery and has since been one of the leading building material manufacturers of this section of the State, and at the same time has continued his former occupation of contracting and building, and has erected many of the finest buildings of Piedmont and Western Port, Maryland, of both public and private nature, as well as in the surrounding country. He has just completed for himself one of the handsomest, most complete and conveniently arranged residences in this part of the State, on Piedmont Hill, overlooking the town and Western Port. It is a three-story and basement frame building of the Queen Anne style and is elegantly and tastefully furnished. In addition to the interests above mentioned Mr. Fredlock is extensively engaged in the furniture and undertaking business, and keeps an excellent stock of the most elegant and modern household goods and all necessary articles for funerals. He has two hearses. He has associated with him in his business his two youngest sons, and the firm is now known as The E. J. Fredlock Manufacturing and Building Company. Mr. Fredlock was married in Piedmont August 13, 1861, to Miss S. M. Jamison, a sister of J. S. and William T. Jamison, residents of Western



*E. J. Fredlock*



Port, Maryland. Mrs. Fredlock was born in Virginia at Frankfort, but was reared in Maryland. She has borne her husband four children: J. C., who is a prominent miller and liveryman of Piedmont; A. M., a successful medical practitioner of Elkins, West Virginia; William H., and F. L., who are in business with their father. All these sons are well educated and enterprising men of affairs, and all are married with the exception of the eldest. Mr. Fredlock has always been a Republican politically and his first Presidential vote was cast for Zachary Taylor. While he has always been active in political campaigns, he has never desired public office, although often solicited to make the race for various offices. He is the oldest Odd Fellow of Piedmont, is Past Grand of his lodge, and is also a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. He and his wife are worthy and active members of the Presbyterian Church, and all good works, benevolent enterprises, etc., receive their liberal and hearty support. During the forty years that he has resided here he has identified himself with the people and institutions of this section and there is not a more public-spirited or enterprising citizen in the county. He is widely and favorably known and his integrity and strict morality of character are unquestioned.

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### C. S. HOFFMAN, M. D.

In a comprehensive work of this kind, dealing with industrial pursuits, sciences, arts and professions, it is only fit and right that that profession on which in some period or other of our lives—the medical profession—we are all more or less dependent, should be noticed. Among the prominent physicians of Mineral County, West Virginia, is C. S. Hoffman, M. D., who is located at Keyser. He was born in Green Valley, Bath County, Virginia, November 13, 1854, but grew to manhood in Harrisburg and Keyser and obtained a good education in the common and higher schools of these places. He began the study of medicine by himself. In the Winter of 1873 and 1874 he took his first course of lectures in the Louisville Medical College, and in the Spring of the latter year commenced practice in Keyser, continuing some three years. In 1877 he took his second course of lectures at Philadelphia, in the Jefferson Medical College, from which renowned institution he was graduated in the

Spring of that year. Three more years were spent in practice at Keyser, when he took up his abode in Philadelphia where he opened an office, with the intention of making that city his permanent home, but a few months later he was advised by his friends in the medical profession to leave that city on account of ill health, and he again returned to Keyser and resumed his practice here. He has built up a large practice here and is justly considered one of the foremost physicians of the county. He is surgeon for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, Vice-President of the West Virginia Medical Society and Vice-President also of the Tri-State (West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania) Medical Society. The Doctor is unquestionably a man of superior ability in his profession, possesses good business capacity also and is a man of excellent habits and unquestioned integrity. He was married at Swanton, Maryland, in 1881, to Miss Anna M. Walker, a native of Washington, D. C., in which city she was reared and educated, a daughter of Mrs. S. J. Walker, of that city. To them three children have been born: Elizabeth Walker, Elsie Reese and H. Huntley. Politically the Doctor is a Democrat, and although he has served as Alderman and President of the School Board, he is not an official aspirant and resigned his last position to attend to his pressing professional duties. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South and move in the best social circles of the county.

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### REV. P. A. BOYCE.

This able divine has charge of all the Roman Catholic Churches of Preston County, and during the quarter of a century that he has been pastor of the church at Rowlesburgh, West Virginia, he has greatly increased the membership of his church. He was born in County Donegal, Ireland, March 24, 1844, and there his youth was spent. He received good educational advantages in the public schools and in the schools of the Episcopal Church, where he studied Greek and Latin. Soon after the close of the great Civil War he emigrated to America with an elder brother, Andrew Boyce, who is now a prominent merchant of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Rev. P. A. Boyce located at Wheeling, West Virginia, where he took a four years' course in theology under Bishop Whalen and one year in philosophy, completing the course there on the 25th of September, 1870. Immediately succeeding this



he was sent as an assistant to the church at Weston, Lewis County, where he served about eight months, after which he was sent to Abingdon, Virginia, and while there built up an excellent church at Bristol, Tennessee, and also established a convent at that place, of which he had charge for one and one-half years. In September, 1871, Father Boyce was sent by the bishop of his diocese to Rowlesburgh, and all the Catholic Churches of Preston County, with the exception of that at Newburgh were placed in his charge, consisting of five congregations and about 145 families. Since locating at Rowlesburgh, Father Boyce has built a parsonage, a school house, a steeple on his church, a church at Tunnelton, has paid off all the indebtedness on the church, amounting to about \$1,500, and being appointed by the bishop, built a church at Thomas, Tucker County, and purchased a lot and left \$300 toward building a church at Davis, Tucker County. He is an active and successful worker for the cause of Christianity and in his ministerial labors has accomplished untold good. Three churches he has charge of and there delivered sermons once a month for ten years, but they are now in charge of other priests, since which he has had Newburgh added to his charge, and now all the Catholic Churches of Preston County are under his control and management. He is well known in this and adjoining counties, is revered and respected by Protestant and Catholic alike, and at all times has a kind word and a pleasant smile for all. He is made welcome wherever duty or business calls him; his life has been one of usefulness and honor and in all respects is worthy of imitation.

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## WILLIAM RECTOR.

The farming class of America is notable for the degree of intelligence and enterprise possessed by its representatives. Our subject belongs to one of the most progressive of families, and is proud of the fact that his father was one of those fast disappearing landmarks of an heroic past—an early pioneer. William Rector was born in Harrison County (then Taylor), this State, Jan. 16, 1833, and his father, Nelson Rector, was born on the same farm in 1809. In 1832 the father was married to Miss Elizabeth McKinley, a native of Morgantown, this State, born in 1802, and after this union they settled on a farm

in Harrison County. When our subject was about nine or ten years old his father made a business trip to Cincinnati and was never heard of afterward. He had been following merchandising at Knottsville for a number of years. Our subject's paternal grandfather, Jesse Rector, came from old Virginia to near Pruntytown in pioneer days and married Miss Rebecca Davis. He became a leading farmer and there spent the remainder of his days. His father came from Germany. Grandfather Thomas McKinley was probably born near Morgantown, West Virginia, and died in Harrison County, where he followed farming. He married Sarah Stewart, a native of Monongalia County, who was a daughter of Alexander Stewart, a pioneer settler of that county. He was the father of eleven children. His father, John McKinley, was a Scotchman and an officer in the Indian wars. He was captured by the savages, who chopped his head off with an axe. The mother of our subject died April 15, 1888, on her birthday. She was a devout Methodist. Her five children were named as follows: William, Julia died when fifteen years old; Eliza is the widow of W. Jarvis; Jesse and Edmond, of Clarksburg. William, the eldest, received a limited education in the schools of his day and as he was left fatherless at the age of nine years, much of the care of the younger children fell on his shoulders. When he reached the age of nineteen his mother married Thomas Richards and our subject then branched out for himself. He purchased a farm in 1860. On February 14, 1856, he married Miss Mary Jane Boring, daughter of Archibald and Elizabeth A. Boring, natives of Harrison County, where Mr. Boring died January 1, 1892, and where he had spent his entire life. He was a farmer and a son of Jarrett Boring, who came here from Baltimore, Maryland, on horseback with a young wife, Jane Watson, when this country was new. Mrs. Rector's mother is still living and is seventy-six years old. Her children were named as follows: Mary Jane, Sarah Ellen, Matilda Ann, Elizabeth A., Samuel Jarrett and James William. Mr. and Mrs. Rector's union was blessed by the birth of eleven children: Archibald W. (deceased), Jarrett N., a farmer of Lost Creek; Jesse M., a farmer; Alfred C., a merchant of Clarksburg; James E., a farmer; William L., a merchant of Clarksburg; Marion Thomas at home; Elizabeth May, wife of John C. Sharp; Anna Alice, wife of William G. Stonestreet; Laura M. and Mary Jane, all of whom are well educated. Since 1860, Mr. Rector has lived on his present farm on Davidson Run, four miles from Clarksburg, and has 123 acres. During the war he did militia duty for the government. He and Mrs. Rector are Methodists and in politics he is a Democrat. Mrs. Rector's

mother, Elizabeth A. Fox, was a daughter of William and Mary Ann (Woodard) Fox. Anthony Fox, father of William Fox, married a Miss Foley. Mrs. Rector's great-grandmother on the maternal side, was Elizabeth Hanan, who married Jacob Woodard, a native of Virginia.

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## J. W. HILL.

That the study of biography yields to no other subject in point of interest and profit is almost universally acknowledged. While it is true that all biographies, and more especially those of successful men, have much in common, yet the life sketches of no two individuals are alike. J. W. Hill, who has been serving the people of Terra Alta as Justice of the Peace and Notary Public for some time, is an old settler of this place, and was born here April 29, 1845. He inherits much of his thrift and energy from his Irish ancestors, his father, James Hill, having been born in Monahone County, Ireland, whither he emigrated to this country with his parents when a child of about two years. His grandfather, Robert Hill, located in New York at first, but subsequently came to this county. He was one of 100 chosen by Lord Blaney to guard Cape Gibraltar, but his discharge was purchased by his father, who notified him of it, but before receiving his discharge he attempted to desert. After being joined by his family in America, he settled in Pennsylvania, and there passed the remainder of his days. His son, James, was reared in the Keystone State, but after growing up came to Virginia, where he was married in Preston County to Susan Maust, who was a native of Preston County, but of German parentage. Farming was the principal occupation followed by Mr. Hill. In 1861 he moved to Terra Alta, engaged in the hotel business, also served as Justice of the Peace and held other local positions. He was Captain of the State Militia several years before the war, and spent the last years of his life here, dying in March, 1862. His wife had passed away in 1859. J. W. Hill is the eldest of a family of three sons and three daughters, all of whom reached mature years. Cynthia, next to our subject, married J. V. Brown, of Tucker County, West Virginia; Carrie became the wife of Hugh Marquis, and Jennie resides in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Jackson Hill resides in Tucker County, and Smith Hill, is a druggist at Homestead, Pennsylvania.

Under the parental roof our subject passed his boyhood and youth, and from 1862 to December, 1863, he was in the employ of the United States Government, Quartermaster Department. In February, 1865, he joined Company K, West Virginia Infantry, and served until discharged at the close of the war, in July, 1865, at Wheeling, West Virginia. He was a faithful soldier and participated in many of the principal engagements. After cessation of hostilities he engaged in the business of plastering and also followed carpentering and building, up to 1868, and is still engaged in the latter occupations. He handles all kinds of building supplies, oils, cement, brick, etc., etc., and is a wide-awake business man. He is also secretary of the Terra Alta Hotel Company and secretary of the Board of Education. In his political views Mr. Hill is a staunch advocate of Republican principles and his first Presidential vote was cast for General G. B. McClellan. For two terms, Mr. Hill served Terra Alta as Mayor and was elected Justice of the Peace in 1888 and re-elected in 1892, having at the present time served six years in that capacity. He was married in Cumberland, Maryland, to Evaline Fraley, a native of Preston County, where she was reared and educated and the daughter of George W. Fraley, one of the first settlers of Terra Alta. The children born to this union were: Anna E., wife of William Marshall, a resident of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Nora J., wife of G. A. Goodwin, of Terra Alta; Ray, a young man of Terra Alta, where he holds a responsible business position; Porte, attending the home school; Hallie, Harry and Derrill. Socially, Mr. Hill is a member of the Terra Alta Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has held a number of important offices, and he and Mrs. Hill hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Terra Alta. Mr. Hill has spent his whole life in Preston County and is well and favorably known over it and adjoining counties. He is industrious, enterprising and progressive, and an honorable, upright citizen.

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## JOHN MARION MILLAN.

Among the representative men of Harrison County, West Virginia, and among that county's most worthy and esteemed citizens, may be mentioned John Marion Millan. He is a man interested in the public welfare, and, while he pays strict attention to his private affairs, he shirks no duty as a

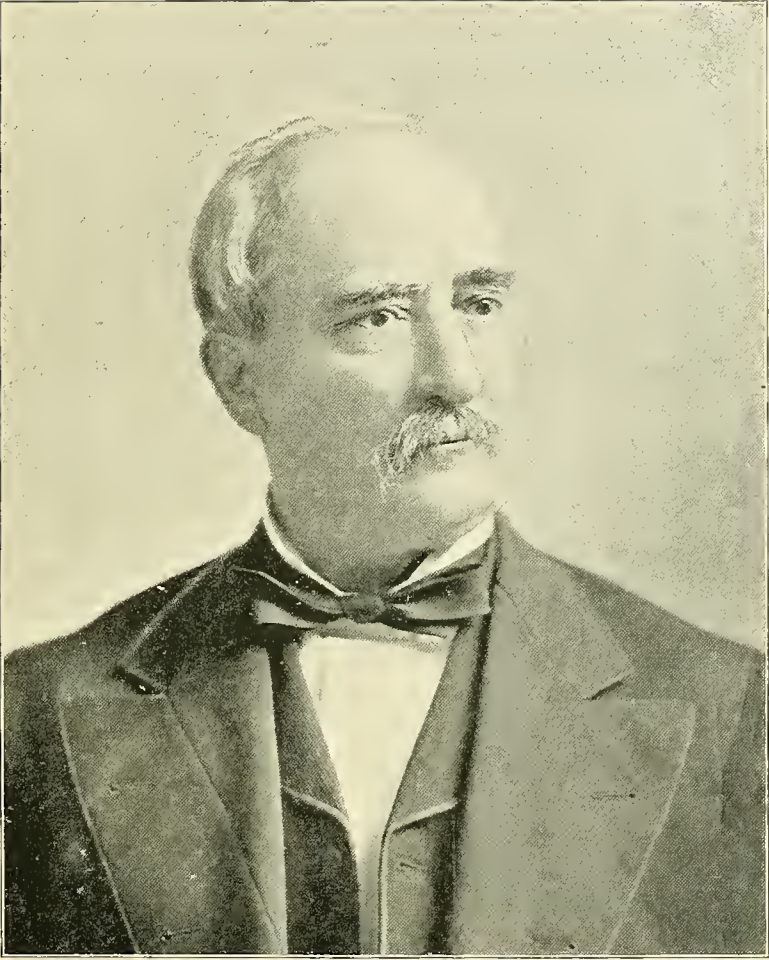
loyal citizen. He was born in Marion County, West Virginia, May 20, 1843, and is of Welsh origin, his paternal grandparents having emigrated from that country to this at an early date, and settled in Kent County, Maryland. Mr. Millan's father, Abraham Millan, first saw the light in Kent County, Maryland, January 12, 1791, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits until the opening of the War of 1812. He then enlisted and served until the close, when he resumed farming, but in Monongalia County, West Virginia, where he remained until the year 1839. From there he removed to Marion County and died on the 15th of May, 1857. He married Miss Margaret Smith, daughter of John Smith, who was a farmer of Monongalia County, West Virginia. Mr. Millan was a Captain of militia and served a term or two as Constable in Marion County. He was also a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. To his marriage were born the following children: Marcus, born April 5, 1820; Elizabeth, born August 14, 1821; Alpheus, born August 31, 1823; Sarah J., born September 14, 1825; Nancy, born October 31, 1827; Caroline, born January 4, 1829; Thomas W., born August 30, 1831; Benjamin F., born May 27, 1833; Mary, born January 1, 1837; George Van Buren, born February 2, 1839; Harriet, born February 24, 1841, and John Marion, born May 20, 1843. Only three of the above are now living: George V., Elizabeth and our subject. The latter received his early and only scholastic training in the public schools of Marion County and remained at home with his parents until the breaking out of the Civil War, when a great desire took possession of him to fight for the old flag. When but eighteen years of age he enlisted as a private in Battery F, First West Virginia Artillery, known as Maulsby's Battery, and served in the Shenandoah Valley most of the time during the four years of the war. The battles around Winchester were the principal ones in which he engaged and he held the rank of Sergeant. After the war he engaged in different occupations, was Assessor a year, and in 1872 was foreman of a large number of men engaged in constructing a railroad, remaining thus engaged until 1882. In the latter year he located at Mannington, Marion County, and embarked in the lumber business. He was elected Mayor of the city several times, but resigned that position the last time to accept the position of Postmaster tendered by President Harrison, and which position he filled in a creditable manner for four years, or until 1893. He has been unusually successful in business and owns considerable valuable property in Mannington, from which he derives a good income. For the past two years Mr. Millan has been residing at Shinnston, partly for rest and recreation. He has been twice married, his first wife,

Miss Margaret J. Thorn, daughter of Seth Thorn, a farmer of Marion County, West Virginia, becoming his wife August 22, 1865. Five children were given them: Cora B., born February 16, 1867; Dora E., born January 17, 1868; Nettie B., born November 26, 1870; Ernest F., born April 27, 1873, and Frederick H., born October 15, 1875. Four of the above children are living in Mannington, Marion County, and one, Dora E., is the wife of James Madson, and resides in Chicago. Mr. Millan was married August 29, 1885, to Miss Sarah A. Randall, daughter of William Randall, of Wellington, Marion County, and cousin of Hon. George F. Randall. Socially Mr. Millan is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Grand Army of the Republic. He represented his lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in the Grand Lodge at Kingwood, Preston County, West Virginia, in 1890, and takes a deep interest in the different organizations to which he belongs. He and Mrs. Millan are Good Templars and enthusiastic temperance workers. Both belong to a church, he to the Methodist Episcopal, and she the Christian.

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## HON. JOHN BRANNON.

The bar of Lewis County, West Virginia, has won an enviable name all over the country for the erudition, success and courtesy of its members, many of whom have achieved a national reputation for their ability and a correct apprehension of what pertains to the profession. Among those who stand deservedly high as a member of this bar with his brother lawyers and with the courts, is Hon. John Brannon. The family of which he is a distinguished member was one of the representative ones of the Valley of Virginia, where the early members were men of learning and prominence. The grandfather, John Brannon, who was a native of Ireland and a man of education, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and a friend of George Washington. His son, Robert Brannon, father of our subject, was born in Berkeley County, West Virginia, and was a soldier in the War of 1812. He married Miss Catherine Copenhover, a native of Frederick County, Virginia, and both died in Virginia, at Winchester, in 1851, but a few days apart. Our subject was one of four sons and two daughters born to them.



*Geo. Brannon*





He received his early education in the academy at Winchester and later entered the law school at that place. He was also in the office of a noted attorney of that city and in 1846 was admitted to the bar. The following year he located at Weston, Lewis County, then in Virginia, but now in West Virginia, and since that time has given his attention to his profession. He has always been a close student in his profession, and has become distinguished throughout the State. From the first he acquired a high reputation as an attorney of unusual ability, persistence, force and adroitness, and as a result rose rapidly to the top of his profession. In 1848, he married Miss Amanda Bland, daughter of Major Thomas Bland, of Weston. They reared four children: Alice, wife of Judge W. G. Bennett, of Weston; Florence, wife of Rev. A. A. McDonough, who died at Knoxville, Tennessee, leaving a child, Florence, who was reared by Judge Brannon; Lillie D., wife of Wert D. Carper, of Detroit, Michigan, and John B., of Weston. Judge Brannon was elected to the House of Delegates of Virginia, in 1853, '54, '55 and '56, and in 1856 was elected to the Senate of Virginia, which position he held until 1861. It was largely through his instrumentality during his Legislative service that the insane asylum in Weston was established, he seeing the necessity of an institution of that kind west of the Allegheny Mountains. He was a leader in both Houses. In 1872 he was elected Judge of the Sixth District of West Virginia, and filled that position until 1881.

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## CAPTAIN JOHN D. ROMINE.

This native son of Harrison County, West Virginia, was born in 1825, to the union of Levi and Jemima (Denison) Romine, who were native Virginians, and who came with their parents to Harrison County when young. The parents were married in this county and here passed the remainder of their days, dying in 1867 and 1879, respectively. Both were members of the Baptist Church for many years and were honorable, upright citizens. The father's principal occupation was farming, but he also followed the cooper's trade with fair success in connection with agricultural pursuits. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and in politics was a staunch advocate of Democratic principles. His father, William Romine, a native also of the Old Dominion, left that State and came to Harrison County, West Virginia, at an early day

and here died when our subject was but a child. He was a cooper by trade and also a minister in the Baptist Church. The following of his large family of children are now deceased: David, James, William, Sarah and Rachel. Our subject's maternal grandfather, William Denison, was a farmer and an early settler from Virginia to Harrison County. Captain John D. Romine was the sixth in order of birth of nine children as follows: Margaret (deceased), married Richard Skinner, and after his death, Jacob Wall, who is now deceased; Sarah (deceased) was the wife of Zeb Davis; Mary, wife of William Norman; Lucinda, wife of Hiram Flisher; Martha, wife of Thomas Clark; James held the rank of Lieutenant, and was killed in the Confederate army; Jacob died young and Benjamin was drowned at Ravenswood during Jenkin's raid. During his boyhood days our subject received limited educational advantages, but has made up for it to a great extent since by observation and reading. In the year 1843 he married Miss Rachel Dawson, a native of Harrison County, and the daughter of William and Rachel Dawson, who came from Virginia to Harrison County, and there passed the closing scenes of their lives. To Mr. and Mrs. Romine were born these children: John Floyd, of Chicago; Melvina, wife of Mr. Grenolds; Lavina, wife of Charles Carpenter; Mary (deceased), wife of M. Oldecker, and Flora, who died young. The mother of these children died in 1868, and in 1874 Mr. Romine married Miss Susan Dawson, a cousin of his first wife, and the daughter of John and Susan Dawson, natives of Virginia, but residents of West Virginia for many years before their deaths. Since his second marriage Mr. Romine has resided on his present farm, near Rockford, and is the owner of seventy-five acres. He was Captain of the militia in an early day. He is a member of the Protestant Methodist Church, and in politics has been a Democrat all his life. For a number of years he followed distilling. He is well and favorably known throughout Harrison County.

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## PETER FIKE.

This county may well be proud of her pushing, enterprising and progressive business men, for, take them as a whole, there are none brighter, more intelligent, or with more ability and push in any direction, and among the number is Peter Fike. For the past thirty-two years he has been engaged

in business in Eglon and those who deal with him find him a very pleasant gentleman, courteous and affable, and in every respect of the term, a true man of business, a man whose experience and thorough knowledge of his work have placed him among the leading merchants of this thriving place. He came originally from Somerset County, Pennsylvania, born October 17, 1841, and is the son of Rev. Samuel A. Fike, who was also born in the Keystone State. The latter married in his native State Miss Rachel Snyder, a native of Fayette County, Pennsylvania, and subsequently moved to Preston County, West Virginia. This was in 1853 and he settled on a farm near the present Village of Eglon, where he resides at the present time, well-advanced in years, but yet hale and hearty. He is an active member of the German Baptist Church, as was also his wife, who died here in 1882. The eight children born to this worthy couple, five sons and three daughters, grew to mature years, but the daughters are now all deceased. The eldest son is Peter Fike. The second, Levi Fike, a substantial farmer of Michigan; Rev. Jonas Fike is a farmer of Preston County and a minister in the German Baptist Church; Rev. Tobias Fike is also a minister and resides near Eglon, and Rev. John Fike, a farmer and also a minister in the German Baptist Church. Our subject passed his boyhood and youth in Preston County, and received his scholastic training in the common schools, but is mainly self-educated. In early life he learned the blacksmith trade and opened a shop near Eglon, which he carried on for eighteen years. In 1877, he entered a store here as clerk and continued in this capacity for several years. He then took charge of the business, carried it on for some time, but in about 1889 he bought out the stock and since then has conducted business on his own responsibility. That he has made a success of this venture is quite evident when one visits his establishment and notes the bustle and activity to be seen. Aside from this, Mr. Fike has been engaged in farming for a number of years and owns 100 acres adjoining Eglon. This is a valuable and productive farm, one of the best in the county. In his political views Mr. Fike advocates the principles of the Republican party, and has held a number of local positions in the county. He is Postmaster and has the postoffice in his store. Mr. Fike was married near Fellowsville, Preston County, August 7, 1862, to Miss Christiana King, a native of this county, and the daughter of N. J. King, who is one of the oldest settlers of Frederick, Maryland. The nine children born to this union were named as follows: Samuel, a blacksmith and business man of Eglon; Elizabeth married A. S. Arnold; Matilda, wife of Seymour Hamstead, a business man; Mary, at home; Jane, wife of

George Hamstead; Lydia, Jesse, who carries on the farm; Ann and Nathan. Mr. Fike takes a deep interest in religious matters and is a member of the German Baptist Church. During almost his entire life, Mr. Fike has been a resident of Preston county, and is well known throughout its length and breadth.

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## ZACHARIAH OFFUTT.

Zachariah Offutt, like most of the substantial, independent farmers of Doddridge County, West Virginia, was born on a farm and early became familiar with the duties of the same. He was born in Montgomery County, Maryland, July 12, 1826, and probably has inherited much of his push and energy from his sturdy Scotch ancestors. He is the grandson of Zachariah Offutt, who with five brothers came from Scotland to this country and settled in different parts of it. Zachariah was a farmer and became a large land and slave-owner. He married Miss Eliza Warfield, daughter of Joseph Warfield, and granddaughter of Joseph Warfield, Sr. The latter participated in the Revolutionary War. Andrew Offutt, son of Zachariah Offutt, and father of our subject, was born in Maryland and served in the War of 1812. His brothers were named as follows: Aaron, Charles, Bazil, Andrew. The sisters are not remembered. Andrew Offutt married Miss Eliza Warfield, and of the nine children born to them three died young. Those living are: Joseph, Nicholas D., Dinah D., Mary, Charlotta and Zachariah. Our subject received his scholastic training in the subscription school of those early days and remained with his widowed mother until seventeen years old. He then went to Baltimore, clerked in a retail store there for some time and then in a wholesale establishment for a number of years. After that, with a brother, he engaged in public improvements, first on the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, afterward on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and then on the Northwestern Virginia road (now called Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern) and for three years after that was on the Louisville & Nashville road. From there he went to the Knoxville & Charleston road. In the year 1855 he married Miss Harriet Neely, a daughter of Matthew Neely, who was of Irish origin. (See sketch of Floyd Neely.) When the war broke out Mr. Offutt returned to West Virginia and located at Smithton, where he followed merchandising for

four years. After that he embarked in the lumber business, followed this for twelve years with success, and in 1876 settled on his present farm, where he has been farming and stock-raising since. He owns 240 acres of productive land, 150 acres under cultivation, and most of his land under fence. He has handled stock of all kinds, but finds that the handling of cattle and sheep is the most profitable. Underlying his land are large beds of soft coal, eight-foot veins, and on his land is fine building stone. His farm and home is near Morganville, on the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern Railroad, and is a very pleasant place. The children born to his marriage were named as follows: Howard died at Chattanooga of yellow fever; Franklin T. died in Tennessee; Eliza married A. M. Pride, who died and left her with two children; Hattie, Eva, William, Robert in the lumber business; Matthew in the lumber business, and Mary at home. Mr. and Mrs. Offutt are attendants and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a strong Democrat in politics. He has served as Justice of the Peace and School Trustee, but does not aspire to office.

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## WILLIAM FRUSH.

This gentleman, who is the proprietor of the Brookside Flouring Mill, has been engaged in business at this place for the past twenty-five years and is not only classed among the representative business men of the place, but is one of its most highly-esteemed citizens. He owes his nativity to Somerset County, Pennsylvania, born March 13, 1833, and his parents, Jacob and Elizabeth (Ross) Frush, were natives of Frederick County, Maryland, and Somerset County, Pennsylvania, respectively. The father was a soldier in the War of 1812. He was twice married, his first wife dying at Clear Spring. Following her death he moved to Somerset County, Pennsylvania, and subsequently was married to Miss Ross, who bore him six children. There he reared his family and passed a long and useful life, dying about 1858. His wife survived him several years. Our subject, the third in order of birth of the above-mentioned children, three sons and three daughters, received but a limited education in youth and is mainly self-educated. After attaining his growth he went to Virginia, and settled in Preston County, near his present location. This was in 1856, and he followed farming for several years, after

which he turned his attention to the millwright business, building mills in Preston and adjoining counties for some time. After this he bought an old mill here, saw mill and flouring mill and carding machine combined, and engaged in milling and manufacturing lumber. In 1887 he built the present mill, a large three-story building and has in three sets of rollers. This mill has a capacity of twenty-five barrels per day and he also manufactures some lumber. He has built up a business that is large and increasing all the time, and is one of the most progressive and substantial men of his community. Mr. Frush selected his wife in the person of Miss Mary Boger, a native of Garrett County, Maryland, and their union was celebrated in that county February 26, 1854. Her father, Christian Boger, was a wealthy farmer of that county. To Mr. and Mrs. Frush were born eight children, three of whom are deceased. The others are: Sarah, wife of John F. Shilmburg, of West Virginia; Martha J. (deceased); Ella May, wife of T. S. Fike, a farmer of this county; Melissa, wife of Frank Griffith, of Garrett County, Maryland; Mary, wife of John W. Wotring; Benjamin F., a carpenter and joiner residing in the Lone Star State; Julia, wife of John Austin, of Benton County, Iowa; Jennie at home, and John W. also at home. In his political opinions Mr. Frush is a Republican, but cast his first Presidential vote for Franklin Pierce, afterward for Buchanan, but in 1864 his vote was cast for Lincoln, and since that time he has voted for every Presidential candidate of the Republican party. He has never aspired for office, but gives his attention almost wholly to his business interests, which he has carried on twenty-five out of the thirty-nine years he has resided in this county. For fifteen years he was Postmaster at Brookside and he has served as a delegate to numerous county conventions. He is a worthy member of the German Baptist Church and a man whose integrity and uprightness have never been questioned.

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## JOHN HUGHES.

The mercantile and manufacturing establishment of which this gentleman is the proprietor is one of the most substantial concerns in Mineral County, West Virginia, and has at its head a most thorough and trustworthy business man, who dates his residence in Keyser from the Spring of 1861. He was

born in what is now Grant County, Virginia, March 5, 1834, and in Hardy County, this State, his father, John Hughes, was born, while his grandfather, who also bore the name of John, was a native of England. He came to this country at an early day and made a settlement on the eastern shore of Maryland. Later he located in Hardy County, Virginia, where he attained to the advanced age of ninety years. His son John grew to manhood in Hardy County, and was there married to Miss Debby Hood, a native of that county and a daughter of John Hood, who also belonged to the F. F. V's. Mr. Hughes gave his attention to agricultural pursuits in Hardy County, but about 1865 moved to Fayette County, Ohio, where he is now living on a fine farm, a hale old gentleman of eighty-five years. The subject of this sketch attained to man's estate in his native county, and while growing up he assisted in the necessary duties of the farm with but meager educational advantages. After reaching manhood he was engaged in clerking in Hardy County for a number of years, then opened a dry goods establishment of his own at Seymoursville, and was successfully engaged in business there for two or three years. In 1861 he came to Keyser, and his was the second mercantile establishment at this place. He carried on a very extensive business up to 1864, doing a cash business of about \$500 daily, but in November of that year a raid was made on the town and the troops robbed his store of about \$15,000 worth of goods. Mr. Hughes saved about \$20,000 in cash, which he had on hand, about \$10,000 of which was deposited with him, and some of his goods. He made his escape across the Potomac into Maryland, hid his money there and while on his return came very near being made a prisoner of war. He was the first postmaster of the town, appointed by President Lincoln in 1862, and served until 1868, his last commission being signed by Andrew Johnson. Mr. Hughes has been an active business man of this place for thirty-four years, and since 1885 has been engaged in the manufacture of gloves and mittens, which he has found profitable. In politics he is a Democrat, but was originally an old-line Whig. He has filled a number of local positions of honor and trust, such as Councilman, and in 1880 was Assessor of the Western District, and has been County Supervisor one or more terms. March 22, 1864, he was united in marriage with Miss E. C. Fry, a native of Hardy County, Virginia, of which section her father, Jacob Fry, was also a native. He and his wife moved to Green County, Ohio, in 1864, and there the father died. The mother is living at the age of seventy-three years and makes her home with a son in Keyser. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes have three children: Cora Lee, Nettie Gaines is the wife of

John E. Caries, of Washington, D. C., and Chalmers, who is a finely-educated and wide-awake young man and holds a responsible position in the Internal Revenue Department in Washington City. Mr. Hughes and his wife are active members of the Presbyterian Church at Keyser, and are universally respected in social and business circles respectively.

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## GEORGE HAYES.

When the books are balanced, when all accounts are finally adjusted, figuratively speaking, there will be a larger credit balance opposite the name of the gentleman who is the subject of this sketch, than is usually placed to the credit of the average of mankind. While a man of no great wealth, he is the possessor of that which is of far more value—an honorable name and the confidence and friendship of those who know him best. Beginning life's battle at the lowest round of the ladder, he has, by sheer force of character, forged to the front and is now justly recognized as one of the foremost citizens of Preston County. He is devoting his time and attention to a most important industry—that of lumber manufacturing—which business he has carried on with marked success at Rowlesburgh, since 1883. He is a Pennsylvanian by birth, a native of the Quaker City, and there his youthful days were spent in acquiring a practical education in the public schools. After the completion of his studies he was employed as a bookkeeper in a wholesale mercantile house and after discharging the duties of this position for four or five years he accepted a like position in a brokerage lumber company, in which he later became a partner and a successful business was conducted in Philadelphia for a number of years. In 1883, Mr. Hayes formed a business partnership known as the Charles Stockham, Jr., Company, and bought out an extensive saw mill and lumber business at this place.

They at once embarked in the manufacture, shipping and exporting of lumber and timber, cutting and handling about 2,000,000 feet annually for three years. They then met with a severe loss, for their mills caught fire and burned to the ground, entailing a loss of about \$18,000. Mr. Hayes rebuilt the mills the same year, although not on so extensive a scale, and since that time has done a large manufacturing business, and in this line of human



endeavor is one of the most active men in the State. He ships lumber, timber and staves from his manufactory and a considerable amount of the timber which he uses in his mill is obtained from the 2,000 acres of fine timbered land on the Cheat River, which he owns. His partner died in 1888, and since that time Mr. Hayes has conducted the business by himself, and has proved himself perfectly capable of handling this large enterprise. He is a man of excellent business capacity, is widely known in commercial circles and much of his success is due to the fact that he is prompt in fulfilling his obligations and strictly upright and honorable in all his business transactions. The universal respect which is accorded him is but the natural sequence of right living and correct business methods, and his friends are numbered by his acquaintances. In the City of Philadelphia he was married in 1870 to Miss Elinora Craig, who was born, reared and educated in that city, a daughter of William Craig, one of the foremost business men of that city. To their union three children were given: Mary R., Walter J., a well-educated young man, who now holds a responsible business position, and George C., who is attending the public schools. Mrs. Hayes and her daughter are members of the Presbyterian Church, and being women of marked intelligence and kindly disposition they are favorites in the social circles of Rowlesburgh.

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## HON. WILLIAM M. WELCH.

Since the separation of West Virginia from the Old Dominion its bar has been second to that of no other State for learning, ability and the establishment of just precedent from new social, industrial and political conditions. This prominence of West Virginia is due as much, perhaps more, to her brilliant lawyers as to her eminent jurists. Both have contributed immeasurably to the legal standing of the State. Hon. William M. Welch is one of the leading lights in the legal profession in his State and has practiced his profession at Keyser for the past twenty-nine years. He owes his nativity to the State of Maryland, his birth occurring at Frostburg, Alleghany County, January 11, 1841. His father, John Welch, was born in the same county in 1806, while his father, Captain John Welch, Sr., was a native of Ireland and became a resident of the State of Maryland in 1760. He held the rank of Captain and was also Quartermaster during the Revolutionary War. His son John grew to manhood in Maryland, and was there married

to Rebecca Greenway, a native of Maryland, and a daughter of Moses Greenway. Mr. Welch was a successful agriculturist, owned a valuable farm in Alleghany County, on which he reared his family and spent his life, dying there about 1888, being survived by his widow three years. William M. Welch spent his youth in his native State and county, and was educated in the schools of Frostburg and Cumberland. After completing his studies he engaged in teaching for about two years, then read law in Cumberland with Judge George A. Pearre, one of the distinguished lawyers of Western Maryland, and was admitted to the bar in that city early in 1865. He soon after located at Romney, Hampshire County, but after the county was divided and Mineral County was formed, he moved to Keyser (June, 1866), and was one of the first lawyers to locate in this town. He formed a law partnership with Colonel Stephen A. Donney, which partnership lasted for about two years, since which time Mr. Welch has continued alone. He is without doubt a man of superior talents, has a most comprehensive and thorough knowledge of the law, is an eloquent pleader and a wise and safe counselor. Politically, Mr. Welch is a staunch Democrat, an active and influential worker for his party, but in 1864 cast his vote for Abraham Lincoln for the Presidency while in the army as corresponding clerk in the Quartermaster's Department. He has worked indefatigably for his party in various campaigns and has been honored and has lent honor to various official positions which he has filled. In 1863 he was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Mineral County and the following year was elected to represent this county in the State Legislature, a position to which he was re-elected in 1870. During his last term he was elected Speaker of the House and made a very efficient presiding officer. In 1875, he was once more elected to the Legislature, again in 1890 and during this term served as chairman of the Committee on Claims and Grievances, Education, Railroads and others of equal importance. He also served as chairman of the Special Committee to look into the matter of the bribery of the book concern. Mr. Welch's popularity is fully attested when it is known that although a Democrat, he has been elected in a Republican county by a goodly majority always. He has been a delegate to and has served as chairman of numerous State and county conventions. He served as School Commissioner of Keyser for nine consecutive years and was largely instrumental in the building of the present commodious and convenient school house, which cost \$20,000. He has been public-spirited always and in every position which he has filled he has shown the utmost efficiency and faithfulness. He was married in Clarks-

burg, West Virginia, October 5, 1865, to Miss Jennie Adams, of that city, where she was also reared and educated. Her father, William Adams, is a cousin of Judge Nathan Goff, of Clarksburg. To Mr. and Mrs. Welch the following children have been born: Carrie, wife of T. P. Smith, of Parkersburg; Lulu, who is completing her education in Baltimore, Maryland; Ida, who is attending school at Parkersburg; William, Richard and Ralph, who are attending the public schools of Keyser.

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## GEORGE W. TALKINGTON.

A noble class of men have built up the agricultural interests of Harrison County, West Virginia, and have made it a garden spot in the great commonwealth of the State. Among those who have been active and efficient in the work is he whose name stands at the head of this sketch. He was born in this county in 1842 to Jesse and Elizabeth (Swiger) Talkington, who are supposed to have been born in this county also. Soon after their marriage they settled on a farm on Middle Run, later on Big Elk, but after being burned out they moved farther down on the same creek, where the father died about 1880. He was active and industrious and acquired a comfortable competency. In the early part of his life he was devoted to hunting, spent much of his spare time during the winter months in this sport, and became very skillful in the use of the rifle. His father, Jacob Talkington, is supposed to have come from Eastern Virginia, and he died in what is now Marion County. It is supposed that his father was Isaac Talkington, a native of Germany. The children born to Jacob Talkington were as follows: Jesse (deceased); John; David; Henry; Samuel; Jacob; Isaac Marion; Mary, widow of Levi Starkey, and Eliza, widow of Jackson Barker. The mother of George W. Talkington is still living, and an earnest member of the Methodist Church. Her father, Absalom Swiger, was one of the pioneers of Harrison County, was engaged in farming here, and here was called from life. To himself and wife fourteen children were born: Absalom, who died young; Francis, John W., Lloyd M., William and Melissa, all dead, the latter being the wife of Henderson Heldreth; George W.; Jane, wife of Henderson Robinson; Serena, wife of Taylor Wier; Martha, wife of George Wier; Sarah Ellen, wife of Rainer Toppleton; Marietta, wife of John Price; Henry H., and Luther R. The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm and

obtained a country school education. In 1861 he was married to Harriet, daughter of Job and Catherine Hall, who spent the most of their lives in Harrison County. Mrs. Talkington was born in this section and died September, 1893, having become the mother of ten children: William S.; Florida Elizabeth, wife of Levi Swiger; Delila, wife of Albert Harbert; Melissa (deceased); Job; Henderson; Clinton and Stella; Mary, wife of Charley Lambert, and Nevada, wife of Curtis Davis. In June, 1894, Mr. Talkington was married to Mrs. Rosalie Harbert, a daughter of Job Hall. She was born in Marion County. Mr. Talkington has lived on his present farm for about twenty-five years and owns an excellent tract of 385 acres. He started in life for himself without means, and what he now has has been acquired by his own exertions. He raises a good grade of stock, and is one of the most successful of Harrison County's farmers in every particular. He and his wife are members of the Baptist Church, and politically he is a Republican.

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## JAMES A. BROWN.

The century whose evening is upon us and the shadows of whose end are creeping over us has been, in America, prolific of the class of men who have been styled, not inaptly, self-made. By this term have been designated men who, without wealth, have educated themselves in a practical way, and become prominent in their different callings. One of the most notable of this class is James A. Brown, a prominent legal light of Northern West Virginia. He has been in active practice in Kingwood for thirty-five years and is well known all over his part of the State. He is a native son of Kingwood, born in the town, June 11, 1839, son of Thomas Brown, who was a native of Virginia, also born in Preston County. The father was a lawyer by profession. Grandfather James Brown was born in Ireland, but came to America and opened up a farm near Kingwood about 1789. Thomas Brown grew to manhood in Preston County and was a gentleman of superior education, attending the academy at Morgantown. Soon after he took up the study of law and was in active practice for nearly half a century. He was married at Fort Pendleton to Miss Ellen Smith, a native of Maryland, where she was reared and educated. Mr. Brown died at Kingwood in 1867 and his wife passed away in 1892. Both are buried in Kingwood Cemetery. James A. Brown is one of a family of six sons and three daughters, all of



*James A. Brown*



whom grew to mature years. They are named as follows: Linnie S., wife of Judge John A. Dille; Delia, widow of Wm. P. Totten, of Oakland, Maryland; James A., subject; General George W. Brown (deceased), was Quartermaster-General, Adjutant-General and Collector of Internal Revenue, and a very prominent man; Thomas P. R., an attorney, resides at Beverly, Randolph County, practicing law; John H., a merchant of Kingwood; R. M. G., Lieutenant-Commander of the United States navy, but is now retired, and resides in Washington City; Charles E. resides in Cincinnati, where he is not only a distinguished lawyer, but a prominent politician, being now Postmaster of the city; Mary E., wife of Joseph Moreland, a well-known attorney of Morgantown. James A. Brown received his schooling in Kingwood and graduated at Washington College, Pennsylvania, and later entered the University of Virginia, where he remained one year. Afterward he read law with his father and Judge John A. Dille, and was admitted to the bar in 1859, although he had, as allowed under the statute, brought quite a number of suits before this. Since then he has been in active practice in Preston and adjoining counties and is prominently identified with the legal interests of this section. Politically he has always been a Republican and voted for "Honest Old Abe," for Grant, Garfield, Blaine and Harrison. He has taken a deep interest in local politics and all the campaigns, and has held several official positions of trust and honor. In 1862, he served as Prosecuting Attorney, and in 1880 he was the Republican candidate for Circuit Judge. The district was Democratic, but he ran ahead of his ticket and only needed eighty-three more Democratic votes to have secured his election. Mr. Brown is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and an active worker in the same. He was married in Baltimore, Maryland, November 5, 1868, to Miss Elizabeth A. Hanna, of Frederick City, Maryland, a lady of education, being a graduate of a female seminary. She died January 20, 1881.

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## HON. JAMES H. TROUT.

This gentleman is now living a retired life in Keyser, but for years was one of the enterprising and successful agriculturists of this county. He is a product of West Virginia, and was born in what is now Mineral County, near Keyser, July 3, 1838. His father, H. Trout, was a native of the Old

Dominion, also; his birth occurring at Front Royal, in 1806. The paternal grandfather, James Trout, was a native Pennsylvanian, his birth occurring near the City of Brotherly Love, but he afterward became one of the pioneers of Warren County, Virginia. The Trout family are of German descent and at an early day came to this country and settled in Pennsylvania. Our subject's father attended the public schools of Warren County, Virginia, while growing up and when a young man he came to what is now Mineral County, West Virginia, was engaged in clerking for a time at Burlington, after which he became a partner in the establishment in which he worked, and a successful business was conducted for several years. He then located at Ridgeville, where he opened a similar establishment, but in a small way, but by good business management eventually built up a very extensive patronage. He soon became Postmaster of the town, and was thus the public servant of Uncle Sam for over fifty years. He was married in this county to Miss Susan A. Myers, who was born in what is now Mineral County, West Virginia, March 5, 1816, a daughter of Peter Myers, who was of Irish lineage and one of the first settlers of this section. Mr. Trout reared his family in Ridgeville, there spent the last years of his life, and at his death left a large estate, which he had accumulated by years of labor and of careful and strict attention to business. His wife passed away July 20, 1845, some years prior to his own death. James H. Trout is the oldest and the only survivor of a family of four sons and one daughter that grew to mature years. He arrived at man's estate in this county, received a fair education at Front Royal and Romney High Schools and Woodstock Academy, and after completing his studies he entered his father's store at Ridgeville, where he remained until he arrived at man's estate. He then decided to seek his fortune in the West and spent about two years in the Chickasaw Nation as clerk in a store, after which he returned to Ridgeville, where he was engaged in dealing in stock up to the opening of the Civil War. He was chosen a delegate for Hampshire County to the convention to reconstruct old Virginia, and while serving in this capacity was taken prisoner and confined at Richmond in "Castle Thunder" for about six months, when he was exchanged and returned home. He was then employed by the United States Government as a special detective and served in that capacity until the close of the war. After that he was appointed Sheriff of Hampshire County to fill an unexpired term, and during that time assisted in the organization of Mineral County of which he became the first Sheriff. After the expiration of his term of office he settled on a farm about three miles



north of Keyser, comprising 300 acres and was engaged in agricultural pursuits and in raising and dealing in stock for a number of years. In November, 1893, he sold the old farm and purchased residence property in Keyser, and has since lived here in retirement and in the enjoyment of a comfortable competency and a much-needed and well-deserved rest. He now owns a one-half interest in 4,000 acres of timbered and mineral land in Tucker County, which is considered very valuable property. In politics, Mr. Trout is a Republican and has served as a delegate to various conventions, but is by no means an official aspirant. He was married in Mineral County, August 2, 1865, to Miss Susan Jane Caldwell, a native of Hampshire County and a daughter of Charles Caldwell, a Scotchman by descent. Three of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Trout are living: Mary M., wife of Rev. T. S. Long, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a member of the Baltimore Conference; Lizzie, a successful school teacher of Mineral County, and Willie J., a young lady, who is attending the Keyser High School. Another daughter, Jennie C., died March 16, 1895, at the age of twenty-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Trout are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are well and favorably known in the section in which they reside. They have seen much of the growth of this section, and have done their share in bringing about many of the most important improvements.

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## LEVI SMITH.

From the most remote period tilling the soil has not only been a most honorable but a most necessary calling, and one that has commanded the attention of men of intelligence, good judgment and sound principles. The life is a healthful and independent one and also one that has many pleasures to the true husbandman, and in almost every instance where the calling is pleasing to him who follows it his efforts have almost invariably met with success. Such has been the experience of Levi Smith, who is the owner of a fine farm of 143 acres in Harrison County, West Virginia. He is a native of this county, born in 1832, a son of Jacob and Anna (Wamsley) Smith, who are also supposed to have been born in Harrison County. The father died in 1856 at about the age of sixty-six years. After the death of his first wife, who died when the subject of this sketch was a small lad, he married

Keziah Hall, by whom he reared a family, and his last wife was a Miss Wamsley, a cousin of his first wife. He was an active, industrious farmer, and as he was one of the early settlers of Harrison County also, he became well known and influential. He was for many years connected with the Baptist Church. His children were as follows: Delilah became the wife of Solomon Shinn and is deceased; Absalom was for some years a minister of the Mormon Church in Utah; Elisha resides in Illinois; Elijah lives in Indiana; Harrison is a resident of Kansas; Francis M. lives in Harrison County, West Virginia; Levi; Louisa is the wife of Robert Harbert, and Jedediah W. by his first wife; and James M. (who died young); John W. (deceased) and Edmund Jasper were soldiers of the Union Army; Tabitha Jane is the wife of David G. Murphy; Sarah Ellen (deceased) and Reuben Calvin (deceased), by his other wives. Levi Smith was reared on his father's farm, and was given such education as the common schools of that day afforded. In 1855, he was married to Catherine, daughter of Andrew G. and Catherine Moore, who removed to Harrison County, West Virginia, from their Pennsylvania home in an early day and here spent the rest of their days. Mrs. Smith was born in the Keystone State, and her union with Mr. Smith resulted in the birth of four children: Harrison Reeves, Anna B., William and Mary. In 1872, Mr. Smith married Ruth, daughter of John and Hannah Harrison, who spent their entire lives in Harrison County. Mrs. Smith's grandfather, David Harrison, came from Ireland and died in this county. Here Mrs. Smith was born and here her son, Porter Smith, was also born. Some years before the war Mr. Smith located on his present farm six miles below Clarksburg, but in 1861 he went to the Burning Springs Oil Works and after seven years spent in the oil business he returned to his present farm, which he has since tilled very successfully. Politically he is a Republican.

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## EDGAR M. DAVISSON.

This gentleman is one among the oldest and best-known citizens of Harrison County for he has resided here all his life, his birth occurring in Clarksburg, March 4, 1815. His grandfather, Daniel Davisson, was one of the first settlers in Clarksburg, and owned the land on which Clarksburg now stands, having taken the patent from the Government. He came from Dela-



Edgar M. Davison



ware to this part of West Virginia and was one of the first to keep hotel in Clarksburg. He also followed merchandising in that city, and was the owner of vast tracts of land in that part of the State. He gave land for the court-house, also for the jail, and two acres for the public school building of Clarksburg on which now stands the new public school building. Mr. Davisson was public-spirited and generous, and his many excellent traits of character made him worthy the esteem of his neighbors. He reared three sons and three daughters. The sons were: Nathaniel, now deceased; George I., subject's father, and Lemuel E., who was an attorney of considerable prominence in Clarksburg. The three daughters were named as follows: Patsey, who married Benjamin Wilson, an uncle of Benjamin Wilson, Jr., now of Clarksburg; Catherine became the wife of Maxwell Armstrong, and Betsey, who married a Wilson. Mr. Davisson, the father of these children, took part in the early Indian wars and lived in a neighborhood where the wily Indians were numerous. His son, George I. Davisson, was born and reared in Clarksburg and studied law, becoming quite a prominent attorney. He was made Captain of a company raised in Clarksburg during the War of 1812, and afterward promoted to the office of Colonel and was stationed about Norfolk. Later he was elected to the Legislature from Harrison County, held that position for over twenty years, and held the office of Clerk of the Circuit Court under Judge Edward S. Duncan. He was also Prosecuting Attorney of the County Court at the same time. He married Miss Jemima Pindle, a daughter of Thomas Pindle, who was an old settler of Monongalia County, and the sister of James Pindle, who was one of the most noted men of his day, being an able attorney and a member of Congress from this district. Mr. Davisson died in the year 1835 when fifty-one years of age, and Mrs. Jemima Davisson, the mother of Edgar M. Davisson, passed away in 1865, when seventy-four years old. They reared a family of six children, as follows: Granville G., who succeeded his father as Clerk of the Circuit Court, died in 1856 while still holding that position. He left a family: Eliza, the wife of A. M. Baslable; Edgar M. (subject); Edwin D., who is now a farmer of Iowa; Louise, the wife of Edward McArty of Iowa, and Julia, the wife of Charles Phillips of Clarksburg. In the last named city our subject grew to mature years and supplemented a common school education received in that city by a course in the school at Meadville, Virginia. Later he studied law and was admitted to the bar. Since that time he has practiced his profession very successfully, nearly half a century, and is a man of intelligence, force of character and determination.

He held the office of Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court under his brother, Granville, and has held other prominent positions. He took no part during the Civil War. Mr. Davisson was married to Miss Louisa B. Lewis of Nashville, Tennessee, in 1853. She died in 1887. In 1889, Mr. Davisson married his present wife, and they have a comfortable and pleasant home on Pike Street.

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## TEMPLE SMITH.

The calling of the farmer has been known and followed from the earliest ages and as a usual thing men of honorable and humane impulses, as well as those of energy, thrift and honesty have been "patrons of husbandry." In Temple Smith these attributes are pronounced, and he is now in independent circumstances. He was born in what is now Marion County, West Virginia, in 1829, to George and Emily (Halbert) Smith, who were also natives of that county. Here the father died about five or six years ago and the mother some years before, both having been members of the Baptist Church. Mr. Smith was a well-to-do farmer and blacksmith and was known to be a great worker. His father, George Smith, was one of the early settlers of Marion County, and here died about the time the subject of this sketch was born. The maternal grandfather, Thomas Halbert, was also an early settler of Marion County, here spent the rest of his days, and died some time prior to the Civil War. To George and Emily Smith the following children were born: Thomas; Temple; Isaac and George (deceased); Polly, wife of Abel Swiger, and John (deceased). The common schools afforded Temple Smith his early education, and while growing up he became familiar with farm work. At the age of twenty-one he was married in Harrison County to Ann Mariah, daughter of Rev. Thomas and Mary Swiger, natives and farmers of this county, the former being a minister of the Baptist Church in addition to his agricultural duties. Mrs. Smith was born in this county and has borne her husband the following named children: Mary Emeline, wife of George Dye; Blackburn; George; Sarah Catherine, wife of John Whiteman; John; Charley; Temple, and Jane, wife of Grant Lyles. Mr. Smith has resided on his present farm since soon after his marriage. He has about 500 acres of

land in two tracts, all of which he has acquired by his own effort. He is largely engaged in stock-raising, and is, with justice, considered one of the foremost farmers of the county. He has a good flowing gas well on his farm, but it is not being utilized as yet, although there is every prospect that it will pay. Politically Mr. Smith is a Republican, and he and his wife are members of the Baptist Church.

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## ALEXANDER A. POST

Harrison County, West Virginia, has no more progressive farmer and stock-raiser than Alexander A. Post, whose fine farm attests by its thrifty appearance the industry and enterprise of its owner. Mr. Post is a product of this county, born on his father's farm March 2, 1845, and at an early age he was initiated into the duties of the farm and in stock-raising. He attended the common schools, and in 1868, when twenty-three years old, married Miss L. V. Burnside, a daughter of Joseph Burnside and granddaughter of John Burnside, who came to this country from the Emerald Isle at a time far in the past. He settled in Harrison County and tilled the soil all his life. Joseph Burnside also followed agricultural pursuits for a livelihood, and married Miss Susan Swisher, daughter of Peter Swisher, a native of Maryland. Mr. and Mrs. Burnside were the parents of eight children: Julia A., James M., Charlotte, Mrs. Post, John L., Oscar, Margaret and Mary. Mr. Burnside died in 1857 and his wife in 1889. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. After marriage Mr. Post began farming the tract of land where he now resides, and by his industry and economy became the owner of 282 acres of excellent land, all well cultivated. He raises some corn, wheat, etc., but the most of his time is given to his stock-raising interests, which are divided between the raising of cattle and sheep. He also raises horses and hogs for his own use, and has some fine graded shorthorn cattle on his place. A seven-foot vein of coal has been found on his place, but he has not opened it yet. Mr. Post is the second of five sons born to Enoch Post (see sketch of Hiram Post in this volume). Our subject's union has been blessed by the birth of seven children: Edith, Susan L., Cora M., Andree, Orion, Elsie and Delma, all at home and enjoying good health. Orion is the only son. Mr. and Mrs. Post are working members of the United Brethren

Church, and are well liked in the neighborhood. He is alive to all the public issues of the day, gives his hearty support to all laudable enterprises and is a most estimable citizen. Although he has never aspired to office he has held a number of local positions, such as School Trustee, etc. In his political views he is a Republican.

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## HIRAM POST.

Hiram Post, who is classed among the most successful farmers and stockmen of Union District, Harrison County, West Virginia, is a native of this county and naturally has its interests at heart. He was born December 6, 1847, and is the third of five sons born to Enoch and Edith (Linch) Post, both natives of Harrison County. The grandfather, George Post, and the great-grandfather came from Germany. George Post followed the blacksmith trade after coming here, but in connection was also engaged in farming. He was a thrifty, industrious citizen, and had a host of warm friends. He married Miss Elizabeth Peterson, who bore him these children: Abram, George, Eva, Jacob, Elizabeth, Mary, Isaac and Enoch. The last named, our subject's father, was reared on the South Branch and became a successful farmer and stock-raiser. He became well and favorably known all over the section in which he lived, and is as popular in every way as his father. He handled a great deal of stock in his farming days, and by foresight and good management prospered in all his undertakings and became the owner of 1,400 acres, which he divided among his sons: Isaac L., Austin A., Hiram, George T. and Wesley. Although now eighty years old and retired from the active duties of life, his mind is still clear and bright, and he is well preserved. No man is more universally respected. His wife was the daughter of Isaac Linch, a native of Virginia, who came to Harrison County when Indians were numerous and dangerous. He (Mr. Linch) followed farming and became the owner of a number of slaves. Mrs. Post, who was a most worthy member of the United Brethren Church, died January 21, 1874, when fifty-nine years old. The boyhood days of Hiram Post were passed in active duties on the farm and in the subscription schools of those days. After attaining his majority he decided that a better education was necessary and attended school at Flemington, Taylor County, where he received thorough



instruction. Later he began farming, and after the father had divided his land among the children, our subject took charge of the home place of 268 acres and has carried it on ever since. Although he farms to some extent, much of his attention is given to stock-raising, and he thoroughly understands that sheep-raising in this county is a profitable industry. He raises some good shorthorn cattle and recently bought a fine male from Mr. Hagarty, a prominent breeder of Ohio. Mr. Post has done much to raise the grade of cattle in the county, and held shorthorn sales, the first in the county. Under his land is a rich coal field, but is as yet undeveloped. He has a most desirable home with lovely surroundings, and is prosperous and contented. On the 7th of December, 1876, he married Miss S. C. Cookman, daughter of Marshall Cookman and Elizabeth (Post) Cookman. Mr. Cookman was reared in Lewis County, West Virginia, and in his early days followed merchandising. Later he tilled the soil. His family consisted of three children: S. C., Sarah E. and May. To Mr. and Mrs. Post were born eight children: Stella, Gay, Hattie, Alma, Launa, Late, Marshall and Elizabeth E., all at home. Both the parents are members of the United Brethren Church. Mr. Post is a Republican in politics, and is interested in all movements for the good of his county.

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## JOSEPH A. PUGH.

This gentleman is one of the active and public-spirited citizens of Rowlesburgh, and notwithstanding the fact that he has been in business in this place but seven years he has built up an excellent reputation and a large and lucrative patronage. He was born in Preston County, November 21, 1864, to J. M. and E. M. (Lipscomb) Pugh, also natives of this county. The grandfather and great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch were natives of Maryland, and the former was one of the honored first settlers of Preston County, West Virginia. J. M. Pugh settled on a farm near Rowlesburgh after his marriage and in the management of his farm showed the best of judgment and was consequently successful. In addition to this he was to some extent engaged in the manufacture of lumber, in which he also prospered; in fact, everything to which he devoted his attention seemed to prosper. He

reared his children to useful manhood and womanhood, and after a well-spent life his earthly career ended in Preston County in 1882. His widow survived him until 1890, when she too passed away. Joseph A. Pugh was the eldest of their six children (three sons and three daughters) and his youth was spent in the healthful work of the farm and in attending the public schools of his native county. Upon arriving at man's estate he engaged in teaming and the livery business in Rowlesburgh, a business which occupied his attention for about four years. In 1888 he purchased a half interest in a general mercantile establishment and in February of the following year purchased his partner's interest and has since conducted the business alone. He carries a large stock of general merchandise, and by treating his patrons fairly, giving them full value for their money, and his earnest efforts to please them he has a patronage that is flatteringly large and constantly increasing. Besides this establishment he has a general store at Buckhorn, where he is doing a good business. He was married in Rowlesburgh August 1, 1894, to Miss Minnie B. Hooton, who was born, reared and educated in this county, a daughter of C. S. M. Hooton. They have one child, a son, born in 1895. Politically Mr. Pugh has identified himself with the Republican party, and has been Postmaster at Buckhorn for two years, but has never been active politically, as his time has been completely occupied with his business interests. Socially he is a member of Rowlesburgh Lodge of the Knights of Pythias. His integrity has never been called into question, and the utmost confidence is reposed in him by his business associates and the public in general.

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## GEORGE W. ATKINSON, PH. D., LL. D.

The life of man in this world is for the most part a life of contest—a life of toil. Work is the best of educators, because it forces men into contact with one another and with situations as they really exist. In all ages the worthiest men have been the most industrious in their callings, the most sedulous in their investigations, the most heroic in their undertakings. Indeed, to the work of hand and brain the world is mainly indebted for its intelligence, its learning, its advancement and its civilization. There can be no question that the men who in early life learned the secret of self-reliance and allowed no



*J. W. Atkinson*



opportunities for the development of heart and brain to pass unimproved are of the class that always leave their impress upon the times in which they live. The systematic toilers have always been the best scholars, the best thinkers, the best teachers and the most successful leaders of their fellowmen. Genius itself cannot avoid the penalty of persevering toil. St. Augustine aptly said: "There is nothing so laborious as not to labor. Blessed is he who devotes his life to great and noble ends, and who forms his well-considered plans with deliberate wisdom." The individual, therefore, who possesses self-assertion, self-reliance, application, perseverance and honesty of purpose never fails to succeed in his undertakings.

The subject of this sketch is an exemplification of the truthfulness of the above statements. The State of West Virginia has not produced a more constant, systematic, conscientious toiler than George W. Atkinson. He began his educational career in the public schools of his State when six years of age, and now, in his fiftieth year he is still a student. In early life he mastered the secret of how to spend his leisure hours and he is clinging to it yet. He has proved the assertion to be true, which has often been made by public teachers, that even one hour a day systematically used in acquiring knowledge out of books in an ordinary lifetime will make an average individual a fair scholar and a master of many important subjects. Anyone, if he will, can devote one hour a day, or even two for that matter, to the acquirement of knowledge, and consequently anyone can be self-educated, if he only have the necessary energy and application. Mr. Atkinson passed regularly through common school, academy, college and university, and is still a student under his own tutelage. He has intermeddled with almost every branch of learning and is measurably well informed in all of them. Philosophy, history, poetry, the sciences and mathematics are alike familiar to him. Such men are rare, and should be, and doubtless are, admired and honored by their fellowmen.

George Wesley Atkinson, son of Colonel James Atkinson, a successful and influential business man of the Great Kanawha Valley, was born in Kanawha County, Virginia, June 29, 1845. His first sixteen years were spent on a farm. He attended public and private schools on an average of six months a year until he was nineteen years of age, entered the Ohio Wesleyan University, in April, 1865, and graduated therefrom in the classical course in June, 1870, took a three-years post-graduate course at Mount Union College, Ohio, studied law for two years, and subsequently graduated from the law department of Howard University, and took the required course of

study prescribed by the University of Nashville in college extension work, receiving in due time its highest degree for scholarship. His college degrees, all of which are pro merito, except the last of the list, which was conferred pro honore by U. S. Grant Memorial University, are the following: A. B., A. M., Ph. B., Ph. D., LL. B., LL. D. and D. C. L.

Mr. Atkinson has filled a number of official positions, and the universal verdict is that he filled all of them ably and well. The two most important posts of honor which he has held are United States Marshal for the State of West Virginia, four years, and a member of Congress, two years. As a Marshal he had no superior. Possessing courage and a high degree of executive ability, he managed that difficult office to the satisfaction of all with whom he had to deal. As a member of Congress he was attentive to his duties and was active in committees as well as on the floor of the House. During his term of service he delivered five speeches in the House of Representatives. One of them on the tariff question was able and exhaustive and was circulated in all parts of the United States as a public document; about one million copies of it were printed. As a legislator, therefore, he made an enviable record. It is said of him that he never neglected to promptly attend to all of the demands of his constituents, and that not one of the thousands who wrote to him failed to receive a prompt reply to his letter.

Although an ardent Republican in politics, he is not in its proper sense a partisan. He is neither bigoted nor perverse in his make-up. He is earnest and sincere in promulgating his opinions, but bigotry is as foreign to his nature as it can be to any man who knows no such sentiment as hate. Very few men who have attained prominence have more liberal and enlarged views on all subjects than Mr. Atkinson, and but few, if any, are more considerate of the opinions of others than he. He has always been liberal, just and fair, and in the performance of a public duty, he always rose above party. He never inquired whether a constituent was a Democrat or Republican when called to act as the representative of his district. At his hands all fared alike, and his universally courteous conduct rendered him a popular as well as an efficient Representative. He refused to be a candidate for re-election to Congress on the ground that the compensation was not in proportion to the amount of labor required, and that private life was more congenial and more profitable as well.

Mr. Atkinson was admitted as an attorney-at-law in the various courts of the State, at Charleston in 1875, and at once entered upon the practice of his chosen profession. He was editor and proprietor at that time of a large

weekly newspaper—The West Virginia Journal—which on account of the clearness of its columns and the vigorous manner in which it was edited had given him prominence as a young man of more than ordinary ability and promise. This occupation threw him into the great field of politics, and his services were demanded as a public speaker throughout the entire southern portion of the State. He is thoroughly posted on all economic questions, and being naturally fluent in speech from the beginning he took a front rank as a public speaker. Among all the prominent men of West Virginia, none ranks above Mr. Atkinson as an orator and forensic debater. He can hold an audience for hours, and never fails to entertain and instruct them. It is said of him, and doubtless correctly, that he knows more West Virginians personally and by name than any other man in the State, or ever was within the State. In this respect he rivals the late James G. Blaine. Moreover, the people know him, and because of his high personal character and his wonderful magnetism, he exerts a powerful influence over them. Because of these facts, he seems to be practically the unanimous choice of his partisans for the nomination for Governor of his State in 1896, the duties of which honorable position, if elected to the same, he will ably and honorably discharge.

Mr. Atkinson is the author of the following books, which he wrote during leisure hours, covering a period of about twenty years: "History of Kanawha," "After the Moonshiners," "Revenue Digest," "A, B, C of the Tariff," "Don't, or Negative Chips from Blocks of Living Truths," "West Virginia Pulpit," and "Prominent Men of West Virginia." These books were written more for the purposes of improving and perfecting the author's literary style than for purposes of revenue; and yet all of them had circulation sufficient to more than meet the expenses of their publication. The first two went through two editions, and the third through five editions. He has written quite a number of poems, but has published but few, as he is reserving them for a volume which he expects to issue later in life. His "Maid of the Cumberland," which will cover perhaps forty or fifty octavo pages, is his best effort in the field of poetry. It has been examined and approved, as a production of merit, by several prominent poetical critics. Quite a number of his shorter poems have appeared in a large volume, entitled, "Poets of America," published by a Chicago firm.

Mr. Atkinson, since his graduation from college, has kept in line with educational movements of every character. For several years he was a member of the Board of Education of his native city, Charleston, and for ten years past he has been an active member of the Board of Trustees of his

alma mater. He is also a member of the Boards of Trustees of Mount Union and Scio Colleges in the State of Ohio. He has delivered a great many educational and literary lectures and addresses in and outside his native State. His services every year, for many years past, have been in demand by literary societies of colleges and universities in West Virginia and surrounding States as a lecturer and speaker. While he has done, and is still doing, considerable literary work, he has never allowed it to materially interfere with his professional duties. He is wedded to his profession, has won an enviable reputation therein, and has a large and profitable clientage.

Mr. Atkinson was happily married when in the twenty-third year of his age, and five children were born as the result of his marriage. His wife departed this life January 30, 1894, but his children are unmarried and are a comfort and blessing to him.

In 1877, Mr. Atkinson moved to Wheeling, the principal city of the State, because he claimed that a lawyer to succeed above mediocre should locate in cities where business exists. He made no mistake in going to Wheeling, as one will readily discover by spending a few hours in his office, as he is always busy, and doubtless works too hard. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has been twice a lay delegate to its General Conference. He is six feet tall, is a genial, pleasant gentleman, and has the confidence and respect of all who know him.

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## JOSEPH EVANS, M. D.

This medical practitioner of high standing at Janelew, Lewis County, West Virginia, was born in Michigan, in 1834, his father being a full-blooded Chippewa Indian named Charles David Evans. His mother was Hattie Evans, a Spanish woman, who died while he was a child, and soon after he began to depend upon his own efforts for support, though spending the years of his boyhood and youth with the Chippewa tribe of Indians. At the same time he came in frequent contact with white people, and early developed a desire for an education, and as a means to this end almost the first money he ever earned was spent for books. In early youth he went West and on the frontier with the tribe to which he belonged, he began the practice of medicine according to their lights. From the "Medicine Man"



of the tribe he acquired a wide range of knowledge of plants and herbs, as used by them, and investigated the properties of others by them unknown. During all this time with the tribe he was constantly studying as best he could and kept drifting further and further westward, until he reached San Francisco. He then became a regular practitioner in that city, and for several years had a most extensive practice. He remained on the Pacific slope until 1870, when he came East and in December of that year reached West Virginia. He had intended to remain but a short time in this State, but his practice at once became so extensive and his cures so pronounced that he felt that it was to his interest, as well as to that of the public, to remain. He soon located in Janelew, Lewis County, and here his home has since continued to be. He has made medicine the study of his life and his great success in its practice shows that his study has not been in vain. In 1871 he was united in marriage with Miss —— Bailey, of Lewis County, and to their union six children have been born: Hoy, Harvey, Ada, Eva, Ida and Cora. The doctor has a pleasant and comfortable home and his children are intelligent, interesting and promising. Many of his patients come from adjoining counties and States to take his treatment, so that there are usually a score or more in Janelew under his professional care. He deserves the greatest credit for the advance he has made in his profession and in intellectual life under such adverse circumstances, and in social life he is highly respected and has many friends.

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## DR. J. I. WARDER.

The standing of every profession is marked by the character of the man who represents it. Although it is a fact that the inducements of the medical profession for the gratification of personal ambition and the accomplishment of selfish ends, have drawn into it men whose influence has been only to degrade the profession, yet there are men of true worth and genuine ability who are devoting their energies to the elevation of the profession and the alleviation of the pains and ailments to which the human body is heir. Dr. J. I. Warder is a skillful and conscientious medical practitioner and is an honor to the profession. He was born in Taylor County, West Virginia (then Virginia), in 1856, the third of six children born to A. S. and Sarah J. (Irwin) Warder, who were born in what is now West Virginia and Pennsylvania

respectively. The paternal grandfather, Noah Warder, was a Virginia farmer of English descent, was a soldier of the War of 1812 and the Mexican War, and was one of the first citizens of Taylor County. James Irwin, the maternal grandfather, was a native of Pennsylvania and died in that State. A. S. Warder, the father of the subject of this sketch, studied medicine in Virginia, and practiced the profession first in Preston County, then in Taylor County, and then in this county at Grafton, up to the time of his death in 1888. He was exceptionally well-read in the profession, was exceptionally skillful, and as a natural consequence his practice was extensive. He was a member of the State Medical Society, and socially was a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. Dr. J. I. Warder was reared in Taylor County, in the public schools of which he acquired a practical education. He began studying medicine with his father in 1873, entered the medical department of the University of Maryland, and was graduated from the same in March, 1879, after which he located in Buckhannon, and at the end of two years came to Weston. In 1887 he was appointed druggist and then assistant superintendent of the West Virginia Hospital for the Insane, at Weston, which position he continued to fill until 1893, when he resumed his practice in the town. He is a member of the State Medical Society. He was married in March, 1882, to Miss Ida J. Bannon, a daughter of Judge Henry Bannon, by whom he has three children: John Irwin, Henry Bannon and Ida Jane. Mrs. Warder is a member of the Episcopal Church, while socially the doctor belongs to the Knights of Pythias. He has a paying practice, for he is a student and progressive, and up with the times in his views.

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## DR. GEORGE B. SIMPSON.

As a prominent physician, Dr. George B. Simpson has done much for the cause of suffering humanity, and won honor and the evidences of deserved success for himself. While engaged in the cares of his laborious profession, he has not forgotten to fulfill all the demands of the good citizen, and is liberal in his support of worthy enterprises. He was born in 1848, the third of eight children, born to Henry and Mary C. (Leonard) Simpson, natives of the Old Dominion. The father was a successful merchant and died at Buckhannon, West Virginia, in 1881, his widow still surviving him.

His father, Robert Simpson, was born in England and with several brothers crossed the ocean to America and settled in Virginia. In an early day he located in Lewis County, where he was married to a Miss Susan Bush, and spent the rest of his life. The maternal grandfather, Ebenezer Leonard, owed his nativity to the State of Connecticut, was of English descent also, and was one of the pioneers of Virginia. In the university of Morgantown, Dr. George B. Simpson received his education, and later pursued his medical studies at Jefferson Medical College, from which institution he was graduated as an M. D., in 1871. He soon after became assistant surgeon in Dixmont Hospital for the Insane, where he remained two years, then came to Weston, and has since conducted a large general practice here. He has written some able articles on medical subjects and throughout his practice has made a specialty of diseases of women. He owns a well-appointed drug store. In 1873, the doctor was married to Miss Mary Lorentz, a native of Virginia, and a daughter of Mifflin Lorentz. They have three children: Henry Lorentz, Fannie Warren and Mary Montgomery. Dr. and Mrs. Simpson are members of the Presbyterian Church, and socially he is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in which he is a Knight Templar, and the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

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## J. G. VANDERVORT.

This gentleman is regarded as one of the finest old settlers of this district, and it is a pleasure to chronicle here the events that mark his life as one of usefulness. Material wealth should not exclude the riches of character and ability in recounting the virtues which have been brought to this region by its citizens; and amongst its most precious treasures must be estimated the lives of those citizens who have, by their intelligence and their eminence in the higher walks of life, assisted in raising the standard of life and thought in the communities in which they have settled. No one has probably done more in this line than J. G. Vandervort, who was born in Monongalia County, Virginia, in 1827, the eighth of nine children born to Paul and Mary (Jenkins) Vandervort, also natives of the Old Dominion. Paul Vandervort was a soldier in the War of 1812, and was located at Fort Meigs on the frontier the most of the time. He made his home in Marion County until his death at the age

of forty-three years. His father, Nicholas Vandervort, was a native Hollander and an early settler of Virginia, where he devoted his life to tilling the soil. In Monongalia and Marion Counties the subject of this sketch was reared and attended the common schools, acquiring a practical education, although the schools in vogue at that time were by no means of the best. Soon after he attained his seventeenth year he began learning the hatter's trade, and this occupation followed without intermission until just before the opening of the Civil War. On the 9th of November, 1849, he located in Weston, and carried on the hatter's business as a member of the firm of Hale & Weston, until just before the war. In 1864, he became Deputy Sheriff under A. C. Hale and Allan Simpson, and in 1877 was elected to the office of Sheriff, which office he filled for four years. Since that time he has been principally engaged in farming, has some fine horses, cattle and sheep, but is now living in semi-retirement from the active duties of life. He laid off what is known as Vandervort's Addition to Weston, has erected a number of houses on this property, and although somewhat advanced in years takes quite an active interest in the advancement of the place. In 1855 he wedded Miss Nancy Butcher, a native of Weston, and a daughter of Jacob and Barbara Butcher, the latter of whom was a Miss Flesher, whose ancestors were the pioneers of this section and once owned the land on which Weston is located. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Vandervort: Jacob Scott and Emery Millard. After the death of his first wife Mr. Vandervort, in 1870, married Miss Cordelia Harner, who was born in Iowa, the daughter of Samuel Harner, who came to Lewis County, West Virginia, in early times. The last union of Mr. Vandervort resulted in the birth of the following children: Mary, John, Lily, James, Maud, Lucretia and Thomas. Mr. Vandervort is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches respectively.

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## M. G. SPERRY.

Among the prominent young attorneys of Harrison County, is M. G. Sperry, who possesses far more than the share of ability with which the average man is endowed. He is now practicing his profession in Clarksburg, Harrison County, where he was born January 26, 1867, and is descended from

English ancestors on the paternal side, the first member of the family coming here in 1638. The descendants of this first representative are now scattered all over the United States, and Lewis Sperry, a Congressman, is descended from a Connecticut branch of this family. His grandfather, Ambrose Sperry, moved to New York State in 1802, and there passed his last days. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Corwin, was descended from the Corwin family of Hungary, the name being known in that language as Corvinus. A member of this family, Silas Corwin, came to America in 1633 and settled at Ipswich, Massachusetts. The founder of this family in Hungary was John Hunyadi Corvinus, who, at the age of eighty-four, gained the battle of Belgrade, in 1453. This family early became identified with the Protestant religion and in 1612 was driven from Hungary. One branch of the family settled in Holland, another branch was represented in America by Silas Corwin, as before mentioned, and three of the latter's brothers settled in England. Silas, a grandson of the one who settled at Ipswich, and a brother, were signers of the agreement to support the Continental Congress, circulated in the Colony of New York before the Congress was called, and afterward soldiers in the Army of the Revolution. Both were killed in that war. E. C. Sperry, father of our subject, was born in the State of New York, in 1827. At the age of eighteen he went to Chicago, where he resided for about two years. From there he came to West Milford, Virginia, in 1848, and there he married Miss Mary M. Patton, and thence moved to Doddridge County, this State, where he resides at the present time. He is a farmer. His youth was passed in his native State and he secured a good education in the schools of the same. When about thirty-five years old he became a minister and has been prominent in the religious history of the Baptist Church in Doddridge County. At the same time he has tilled the soil successfully. Politically he is a Democrat and an active man in the party. Mrs. Sperry was the daughter of Squire A. L. Patton, who was a native of Virginia and an early pioneer of Harrison County. He died in 1869. Mrs. Sperry was born in Harrison County in 1835. Of the fourteen children born to Mr. and Mrs. Sperry two died in infancy. The others are: E. A., a resident of Pennsylvania; Columbia, wife of L. G. Bussey, of Doddridge County; Leonora, wife of W. D. Sigler, resides in Braxton County; A. L. resides in Doddridge County; Rulina, wife of C. L. Snider, of Doddridge County; Melvin G. (subject); E. C., Jr.; C. B.; Ernest V.; Earl M.; Ida and Percy C., on the farm in Doddridge County. Our subject reached manhood and in that county received his education. Later he began

teaching, in the public schools. He then began the study of law and in 1890 was admitted to the bar, soon afterward commencing to practice at Clarksburg in connection with Mr. J. P. Clifford. He is editor of the Clarksburg Tribune, one of the best newspapers of the county, and is a Democrat in politics.

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## A. J. BONAFIELD.

An active and progressive system in any profession or line of business, when based upon principles of honor, is sure to bring success, and an illustration of prominence gained through these means is seen in the record of A. J. Bonafield, general merchant of Tunnelton, West Virginia, who has been one of the progressive business men of this section since 1873. The finger of time is one of the most satisfactory and reliable indorsers of a man's business career usually and in connection with A. J. Bonafield it is especially applicable. He was born in the vicinity of Tunnelton, June 12, 1849, a son of Thornton J. Bonafield and grandson of Samuel Bonafield. The latter came to West Virginia from Georgetown, D. C., became one of the pioneers of Tucker County, and here his son, Thornton J., was born. While he was still a lad the family moved to Preston County, and here he grew up and was educated. Upon reaching manhood he married Sarah Ervin, a native of the county and the daughter of Jacob Ervin, who was one of the first to settle in the vicinity of Tunnelton. Soon after his marriage he turned his attention to the honorable and useful occupation of agriculture and during the active portion of his life followed this occupation successfully, but for sometime past has been retired from the active duties of business. Although he is now about seventy-five years of age he is yet hale and hearty, with a keen, active and comprehensive mind. The public schools of Preston County afforded A. J. Bonafield his initiatory training, which was supplemented at a later period by two terms in the graded school of Palatine and later by one term at Terra Alta. Upon completing his education he began teaching school in Preston County, which occupation he continued for three terms. He then became a clerk in the mercantile establishment of Allen, Shaffer & Co., of Tunnelton, and during the three years that he



*A. J. Bonafield*





was with this firm, he received a thorough business training and acquired a detailed knowledge of merchandising. He and Mr. M. L. Shaffer then purchased Mr. Allen's interest and were associated in business under the firm name of Shaffer & Bonafield, up to 1891, when Mr. Bonafield became the sole proprietor. Owing to his upright methods of conducting his affairs, his courtesy to his patrons and his earnest efforts to please them, he has built up a large connection, which, as years pass by, is continually growing and increasing. His attention has not been confined to his mercantile operations alone, for he has considered it wise to have "more than one iron in the fire," and he is president of two coal and coke companies, the West End Coke Company and the Kingwood Coke Company, and was one of the organizers of the Tunnelton, Kingwood & Fairchance Railroad, of which he was for seven years treasurer and paymaster, and is still agent of this line, and also of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. He was married in Palatine, West Virginia, March 6, 1873, to Miss Virginia Robinson, who was born, reared and educated in that place. Her father, James Robinson, died when she was a child. To Mr. and Mrs. Bonafield six children have been born, four of whom are living: Guy M., a well-educated young man is a clerk in his father's store; Hugh W. is also a clerk in the store; Ethelind V. and Stewart R. The principles of the Democratic party have always been supported by Mr. Bonafield, but his active business life has precluded the idea of a political career. He has always been a warm patron of the cause of education, he and his wife are earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained to the thirty-second degree. He is also a member of the Order of the Mystic Shrine.

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## JUDGE RALPH L. BERKSHIRE.

The family of which Judge Berkshire is a distinguished member is of English and Welsh descent and came to this country at an early date. His parents, William and Ruth (Bradget) Berkshire, were born in Maryland, in which State the grandfather, John Berkshire, was also born. William Berkshire was an agriculturist and followed that calling up to the time of his death, which occurred in this county in 1860. He was a hard-working, industrious

man and during his youth was trained in a hard school, working on a new farm in the woods and receiving no educational advantages. Not until after his marriage did he find time to cultivate his mind as well as his farm. About the year 1817 he moved to Monongalia County, West Virginia, and located a mile and a half from Morgantown, on what is called "the flats," where he continued his former occupation. He was a Whig in politics and at an early day was well known in this county. After the death of the mother of our subject, which occurred in 1820, Mr. Berkshire married Miss Nancy Brown, who bore him one child. His first marriage resulted in the birth of children, as follows: Esea, Dorcas, Sarah, Priscilla, Nelson, Rebecca, Mahala, Ralph L., Edmond, of whom only our subject and Edmond are now living. The parents held to the Methodist faith and Mr. Berkshire was a member of that church for sixty-five years. Judge Ralph L. Berkshire was born in Alleghany County, Maryland, April 8, 1816, near Cumberland, and when but six months old was brought to Harrison County, West Virginia, by his parents. While growing up he learned the carpenter trade, but later, about fifty years ago, began the study of law and was admitted to the bar. This was in 1844. He first began practicing in Morgantown, Monongalia County, but later in other counties of the State, and although now in his seventy-seventh year, he still continues to practice his profession. In the year 1862 he was elected Judge of the old Twentieth Judicial Circuit and held that position several years. He was then elected one of the three Supreme Judges of the Court of Appeals of the State, serving until 1867, a large part of the time as President of the Court. After that he was elected State Senator. Judge Berkshire is a careful and accurate adviser, and an earnest and conscientious advocate. His success at the bar has been achieved by the improvement of opportunities, by untiring diligence, and by close study and correct judgment of men and motives. His strength lies in his great fairness and liberality, coupled with a keen discernment of motives behind actions. For twenty years he has been in partnership with George C. Stergus. In his political views the Judge has always been a staunch Republican. He voted for William H. Harrison, and also for Benjamin Harrison for President of the United States. He was a delegate to the convention in Chicago in 1892 and during his day has attended many conventions. He is also a member of the Bar Association of West Virginia. Aside from his law practice Judge Berkshire has been engaged in farming and in the lumber business, has made a success of his various enterprises and is one of the wealthy men of the county. His fine residence in Morgantown is presided over by his wife, who

was formerly Miss Mariah L. Chadwick, daughter of James and Jane Chadwick, long since dead, but early settlers in the county. This union resulted in the birth of three daughters and a son: Carrie died young; Jane A., the wife of J. C. Wagner; Emma, who died in 1890, was the wife of Archie Rader; Mary R., single, and Charles P., who is a lumberman. The latter married Miss Margaret Conn. Our subject has five grandchildren, Clarence, Mary, Arthur, Gertie and Mariah, all bright, intelligent little children. The uncle for whom our subject was named, Ralph Berkshire, was a very prominent attorney of Morgantown.

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## JOHN J. DOLAN.

One of the men who has been prominently identified with the progress and development of Clark District, Harrison County, West Virginia, is our subject, who naturally takes an interest in its advancement for he was born here, in Clarksburg, in 1864. Although he cannot be called one of the pioneers of this vicinity, he has lived here all his life, and his parents, Patrick and Bridget (Glancy) Dolan, came to this section soon after they were married. The parents were born in County Roscommon, Ireland. When about eighteen years old the father came to the United States and for a few years was watchman on a railroad in the Empire State. He was subsequently offered a position as section boss on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, near Grafton, West Virginia, and while there was married to Miss Glancy. By practicing the utmost economy he saved enough money to purchase a farm near Bridgeport, and later purchased property in Clarksburg, where he built and ran the Dolan House. He was successful in all his business ventures, money seemed to flow into his hands, and he became one of the substantial men of that section. About the year 1873 he removed to Wolf Summit where, in connection with his duties as railroad agent, he followed merchandising and farming until his death in 1893, when about sixty-two years old. He provided liberally for each of his children and left a goodly estate. He started in life a poor boy with no education, having learned to write his name after reaching manhood, but he prospered in all his undertakings in a most wonderful manner. He had two brothers and a sister who

came to the United States, viz.: Thomas, now of Washington, D. C.; Michael, who was killed while railroading, and Mary, wife of Michael Glancy, of Clarksburg. The grandparents, Patrick and Ann Dolan, spent all their lives in Ireland. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Michael Glancy, died in Ireland, but his widow came to the United States and died in Clarksburg. Seven children were born to the parents of our subject: Michael, a farmer of Wolf Summit; Patrick died in infancy; Thomas died at the age of three; Mary, John J., Katie, wife of Michael Burns, of Weston, and Anna. The mother is still living and is about sixty-four years old. All the family belong to the Catholic Church. John J. Dolan was educated in the schools of Clarksburg and at Parkersburg, under Prof. Nash. His father then built a school house in his yard at Wolf Summit and employed good teachers. Here our subject finished his literary education, but in 1882 graduated from Duff's Business College at Pittsburgh. However he returned to farm life and has tilled the soil successfully ever since. In 1891, he married Miss Lizzie Clifford, a native of Clarksburg, and the daughter of James and Sarah Clifford, natives of Ireland, who came to this country and settled in Clarksburg many years ago. Mr. Clifford followed merchandising for many years or until his death. Mrs. Clifford is still living. Two children, Patrick and Mary, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dolan. Since his marriage, Mr. Dolan has lived on his present farm of 300 acres, three miles southwest of Clarksburg, and has got it in good tillable state. The house stands on a beautiful hill, overlooking much of the surrounding country, and is a pleasant and most desirable home. Socially, Mr. Dolan is a member of the Knights of St. George, of Clarksburg, and politically he is a Democrat.

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## DR. J. E. DAWSON.

This worthy physician and surgeon has met with unusual success in the practice of that most noble of callings—medicine—and has gained a substantial reputation as a general practitioner with the profession and the public. He was born in Alleghany County, Maryland, about July 3, 1840, and is a son of John T. and Minerva (Balthis) Dawson, the father a native of Alleghany County, Maryland, born February 22, 1822, and the mother of Shenandoah

County, Virginia, in 1833. The parents were married in Maryland, and there resided for many years, but subsequently moved to Preston County, West Virginia, where Mr. Dawson died June 24, 1887. He was a carpenter by trade. For many years he held membership in the Lutheran Church, and socially was a Mason. Mrs. Dawson was a member of the Methodist Church. Our subject's grandfather, William R. Dawson, was one of the pioneers of Alleghany County, Maryland, where he spent all his life. He held many of the prominent offices of the county and was a popular and influential man. For a number of years he held the office of Sheriff and was also a member of the Legislature for some time. He kept hotel on the old national pike for some time. His father, Jake Dawson, was a wealthy farmer and died in Alleghany County. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Leonard Balthis, died in Virginia, his native State. He was a very widely-known Methodist preacher for many years. His wife also died in Virginia. Dr. Dawson was next to the eldest of thirteen children born to his parents. They were named as follows: Inez C., died when thirteen years old; Milton Z., resides in Preston County; Melville W., also in Preston County—these two are twins; Charles F., of Garrett County, Maryland; Mary R., wife of Charles Pugh, of Preston County; Thomas R. (deceased); Clarence G., of Preston County; John W., of that county; Newton C., of that county; Joseph L., Garrett County, Maryland; Zena E., wife of E. N. Moore, of Preston County, and Birdie M. Our subject was educated at Alleghany County Academy, and when seventeen years old began reading medicine with Drs. W. H. Raven-craft and J. M. Porter, of Frostburg, Maryland. In 1871 he graduated from Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia, and after practicing about sixteen months at Selbysport, Maryland, came to Wilsonburg, in 1872. Here he has since practiced with much success. In 1876 he returned to Maryland and married Miss Sarah C. Frost, a lady of more than ordinary ability, who received a thorough education in Eagleside Seminary, Maryland, and later took a very thorough course in music at Baltimore, Maryland. Her parents, Nathan S. and Sarah C. (Rapley) Frost, were natives respectively of Maryland and Pennsylvania. The mother died in Maryland and afterward the father moved to Kansas City, where he is now engaged in merchandising. Our subject's union has been blessed by the birth of nine children: Clarence, Zena R., Bruce, Helen M., Florence, Jennie B., and Cora (deceased) and Harry (twins), and Charles. Socially, Dr. Dawson is a Master Mason, a member of Herman Lodge No. 6, Clarksburg. He is Past Noble Grand of Adelpi Lodge No. 8, and was twice representative to the Grand Lodge. He

has been through all the chairs of Temple Lodge, Ancient Order United Workmen No. 12, at Clarksburg, and is now medical examiner of that order. He is also a Good Templar and has organized many lodges. Politically he is a Republican. For many years he has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and is a steward in the same. His wife holds membership in the Lutheran Church.

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### J. F. OSBORN--DECEASED.

In the death of J. F. Osborn, Harrison County, West Virginia, lost one of her most active business men and public-spirited and useful citizens. He was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, in 1828, and was called from this life in 1885, at the age of fifty-six years. He grew up in the county that gave him birth, and from early youth was familiar with the iron trade. He removed to Weston, West Virginia, in 1859, and there opened a foundry, which he successfully conducted until 1863, in which year he came to Clarksburg, and here continued the same business alone until 1872, when he associated with him a brother, A. H. Osborn, after which the foundry was enlarged and the machinery and boiler-making departments were added. They fully equipped their establishment with the finest machinery to be had and engaged extensively in the manufacture of saw mill machinery, engines, and boilers. Up to 1880 the firm was known as J. F. Osborn & Bro., but at that date A. Campbell Osborn, son of the senior member of the firm, was admitted to a partnership, and the firm then became known as J. F. Osborn, Brother & Co., and so continued until death closed the career of J. F. Osborn in 1885. Soon after this A. H. Osborn withdrew from the firm and the business is now conducted under the style of J. F. Osborn's Sons, with A. Campbell Osborn at the head, and practically the owner of the plant. The establishment gives constant employment to about twelve men, and a large annual business is done. When a mere lad J. F. Osborn started out to fight life's battles for himself, but unlike many similarly situated, he had received a practical education, and this, coupled with an energetic and ambitious disposition, led to his ultimate success in the business world. He was a staunch Republican politically, but was distinguished for never desiring public office, although active in all public matters. He attended various conventions and was one

of the commissioners appointed from Harrison County to locate the United States District Court building, and it was eventually erected at Clarksburg. He was one of the incorporators of the gas company of this city, was a member of the Agricultural Society of this county, was also a member of the Harrison County Coal Company and was interested in numerous other public enterprises. He was a man well versed in all the public questions of the day, was a fluent and agreeable public speaker, and his influence was always exerted in behalf of the Republican party, whose tenets he thoroughly believed in. He became well known throughout this section of the State, both in a business and public way, and his genial disposition and desire to "do as he would be done by" won him many and warm friends. Socially he was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He was married in Monongalia County to Miss Anna Frum, who was born near Morgantown, a daughter of a pioneer of that section. Of twelve children born to Mr. and Mrs. Osborn, ten are living: A. Campbell; Fannie, wife of James K. Mitchell, of Washington, Pennsylvania; William B., who is in the machinery and supply business in Clarksburg; Dora V., who is completing a musical education in the New England Conservatory of Music of Boston; Flora L., wife of Harry P. Chambers, of Washington, Pennsylvania; Guy J., who is in New York City; Georgia, wife of W. N. Johnson, of Orange, New Jersey; Nellie G., wife of Charles Pidcock, of New York City; Richard L., of Clarksburg; and Robert L., William G., and Flora died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Osborn were among the first people of Clarksburg, and the death of this worthy citizen was a source of much regret to all who knew him. His widow survives him, resides in Clarksburg and is an earnest and worthy member of the Presbyterian Church.

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## A. CAMPBELL OSBORN.

This wide-awake business man is at the head of the foundry and machine shops which bears the firm name of J. F. Osborn's Sons, at Clarksburg, West Virginia. He was born June 12, 1854, in Monongalia County, near Morgantown, and educated in the public schools of Weston and Clarksburg, and the Northwest Academy; at the latter place, he acquired a thorough and practical education. When a lad of nine years he entered his father's shops,

and thus may be said to have grown up in the business. When he had acquired a sufficient knowledge of the business by practical experience, and had attained a suitable age, he, in 1880, was taken into the business as a partner, and in 1885 assumed full control of the business. He had been foreman of the shops up to that time from 1872, and it can with truth be said that there is not a man of his age who has had a more practical experience or more thoroughly understands the foundry business than does he. During the thirty years which he has devoted to this work, he has been extremely conscientious in the discharge of his duties, which no doubt is a secret of the success which has attended his efforts, and no man in the county was better fitted to construct the city waterworks than was Mr. Osborn, and his work in this connection was above criticism. He yearly does a large amount of iron bridge work, and the fine Main Street bridge across Elk Creek at Clarksburg, was built by him. He is in every respect a fine workman, which fact has come to be recognized, and he has a liberal patronage. Like his worthy sire before him he has always been a Republican in politics, but aside from holding the office of City Councilman during 1893-4 he has never held public office. He was married to Miss Eleanor E. McCreary, a native of Baltimore, Maryland, and daughter of J. W. McCreary, of that city, and their union has resulted in the birth of four children living, and two, Florence and an infant, who died young. Joseph E., Elizabeth, Lillian and A. Campbell, Jr., survive.

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## THE JACKSON FAMILY IN WEST VIRGINIA.

The first of this family to locate in the United States was John Jackson, who came from London, England. He was of Scotch-Irish lineage and is supposed to have been born in the North of Ireland. He was taken to London at the age of two years and there eventually became a prosperous tradesman. Upon his arrival in America in 1748, he secured employment on the plantation of Lord Baltimore in Calvert County, Maryland, and there he united his fortunes with those of Elizabeth Cummins, who was also a native of London and a woman of great force of character and of fine physical proportions. After a time John Jackson removed with his family to what is now West Virginia, and made a location on the land on which the Town





J. M. JACKSON.



of Buckhannon now stands. At that time he had two sons, George and Edward, and the date of their settlement was 1758. When the Revolutionary War came up the father and sons enlisted in the Colonial army, and at its close returned to their home in West Virginia. When the parents had become quite advanced in years they made their home with their eldest son, Colonel George Jackson, in Clarksburg, where the father died September 25, 1801. He was in every sense of the word a man of honor and was loved and respected by all who knew him. His wife died in 1825, at the very unusual age of one hundred and five years. Their children were: George, who became a Colonel in the Revolutionary War, and assisted in driving the Indians from this district; was also in Congress for some time, but finally moved to Zanesville, Ohio, where he died; Edward (the grandfather of General "Stonewall" Jackson) located in what is now Lewis County, where he became an extensive land-owner; Samuel emigrated to Indiana, and settled near Terre Haute; John and Henry. Of these five sons all married twice and reared large families. John Jackson and his wife also had three daughters who married into the Davis, Brake and Regan families and left descendants. George Jackson, the eldest son of John Jackson, reared a family that eventually became noted. The eldest son, John G. Jackson, became a lawyer of note (grandfather of T. Moore Jackson, of Clarksburg), and succeeded his father in Congress. He was married to Miss Payne, daughter of the wife of President Madison by a former husband, and later he married the daughter of Governor Meigs, of Ohio, afterward Postmaster-General of the United States. John G. Jackson was appointed first Federal Judge for the Western District of Virginia and filled the office up to the time of his death in 1825. He was a very public-spirited and progressive man and sought to build up this country by erecting furnaces, forges, mills, wool factories, salt works, etc., and succeeded in his laudable undertaking. The other sons of George Jackson were: Edward, who became a prominent physician; William S., a successful lawyer, who became the father of Colonel William L. Jackson, late Lieutenant-Governor of the State, and Judge of the Supreme Court, and George W. Jackson, of Ohio. Edward Jackson, the grandfather of General "Stonewall" Jackson, was the second son of his parents and was married to a Miss Hadden, by whom he became the father of three sons and three daughters, the names of the former being George, David and Jonathan. By his second wife he had nine children. His son Jonathan was the father of the General. He was an attorney and studied under Judge Jackson, of Clarksburg. He married Julia Neale, of Parkersburg, and

four children were born to them: Warren, Elizabeth, (General) Thomas J., and Laura. Jonathan Jackson died about 1820 and his wife in 1831. Their children then found homes among their relatives and "Stonewall" Jackson was reared by Mrs. Brake about four miles from Clarksburg.

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## JAMES MADISON JACKSON.

This gentleman was the son of John G. Jackson and was born in Clarksburg, and was the only son of his father's second marriage, his mother being the daughter of ex-Governor Meigs, of Ohio. His birth occurred January 15, 1781, and he was educated at Uniontown, and in the University of Virginia, from which institution he was graduated in 1835. In 1839 he took up the study of law, was licensed to practice by Judges Juncan and Daniels and this occupation successfully followed up to the time of his death in 1870. He was married to a Miss Moore and their union resulted in the birth of a son, T. Moore Jackson, in Clarksburg, June 22, 1852. Upon attaining a suitable age the latter was placed in the public schools and later in the Northwest Academy at Clarksburg, from which he graduated when sixteen years of age. He then entered the college at Bethany, West Virginia, and later the Washington and Lee University, where he took up the study of civil and mining engineering, and in June, 1873, was graduated from this institution. He at once began working at his profession as a railroad surveyor, helped to build several, and was chief engineer of four different roads. He also gave much time to other branches of the profession, but after having completed the construction of the Western Railroad he began developing coal mines at Clarksburg and vicinity. He was then called by the board of the West Virginia State University as professor of civil and mining engineering in that institution at Morgantown, and successfully filled that position up to 1891, graduating the first civil engineering class of that institution. In the year above mentioned he came to Clarksburg and established the Pinnickinnick mines on Pinnickinnick Mountain, which he owns. This company was one of the first established in the neighborhood and the mine is found to be a paying one. Mr. Jackson is a wide-awake business man and is the president of the Traders' Bank of Clarksburg, as well as president of the Pinnickinnick Coal Company, which is incorporated, and of the Ten-

Mile Coal and Coke Company, which owns 20,000 acres of coal lands, comprising a vein of from nine to twelve feet. He has been largely interested in mining operations and for years was the only mining engineer in this section of the country, and at the same time has been interested also in iron mines and has built railroads to some of them. He put down and developed the first oil well at Mannington, West Virginia, with Prof. I. C. White, in which he is still interested, and he is a member of a number of oil companies and is president of five, which position he holds with two coal companies. All of these are independent of the Standard Oil Company. The real estate which Mr. Jackson owns is very expensive and he owns some valuable real estate in Clarksburg. He is interested in one or two railroad projects, in fact, is active in every enterprise which tends to build up his section, and he is with justice considered one of the most useful citizens of which his State can boast. Politically he is a Democrat and was once elected by that party to the office of County Surveyor, and held the position for four years or up to 1887. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and was elected a fellow of the Geological Society of America, in both of which he is very much interested. On him has been bestowed the degrees of Civil Engineer, Mining Engineer and Doctor of Sciences from the Washington and Lee University. His home on Pike Street in Clarksburg is one of the handsomest in the place and is noted for its hospitality. He was married in 1884 to Miss Emma, daughter of Judge C. S. Lewis. Mrs. Jackson was born in Clarksburg, was educated in Staunton, Virginia, in an Episcopal school and is a finely-educated and intelligent woman, a fit helpmate for such a man as Mr. Jackson. They have a little daughter, Florence. They are attendants of the Episcopal Church and move in the highest social circles of their section.

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## GENERAL JOHN J. JACKSON.

\*This widely-known and eminent citizen was born in Wood County, West Virginia, February 13, 1800. His early years were spent chiefly in Parkersburg, with whose village growth and municipal prosperity in later times he was thoroughly identified, and in which identification in advanced age, he

\*From "Prominent Men of West Virginia," by Hon. George W. Atkinson.

took especial delight and pride. There he began his primary education, under the tuition of the venerable Dr. David Creel, who subsequently resided in Chillicothe, Ohio.

To adopt, with needed variations, the precise language of a friend who knew him most intimately and admired his manly and superb qualities of head and heart: "Possessing quick perceptive faculties, and manifesting, even when very young, an aptitude for study and fondness for books, he was soon removed to Clarksburg, in the County of Harrison, and placed in a school of higher grade than any other institution of learning in this section of Virginia. This school was taught by Dr. Tower, a gentleman of culture, and one well qualified to train and develop the young mind under his guidance and control. Here, the subject of this notice so improved his advantages, and made such rapid progress, that at the early age of thirteen he entered Washington College, Pennsylvania, with bright prospects of a successful career in that well-known school of letters. But his sojourn there was destined to be brief; for, after a year's course in that institution, he received from President James Monroe an appointment as a cadet to West Point, which school he entered on the 8th of March, 1815. In less than four years, having successfully completed a course of study in that deservedly renowned institution, he graduated on the 24th of July, 1818, being then only in the nineteenth year of his age. He was commissioned at once, as a Second Lieutenant in the Regular Army of the United States, and attached to the corps of artillery. Ordered to Norfolk, Virginia, he performed garrison service there until the latter part of the year 1819. About the 1st of December, 1819, he was detached from his old command, and transferred to the Fourth Infantry. During the year 1820, and part of 1821, he performed active service in Florida, in the Seminole War. While thus engaged, he was commissioned, in May, 1821, as Adjutant of the Fourth Infantry, and transferred to regimental headquarters at Montpelier, Alabama. At this place, and at Pensacola, during the years 1821 and 1822, he performed staff duties, as a member of General Andrew Jackson's military family. In October, 1822, he visited Parkersburg on a furlough of six months; and resigned his commission in the army of the United States about the 1st of January, 1823. He now chose the law as his profession, and with his accustomed zeal and energy, he at once set himself to master the principles of legal science, as a necessary prerequisite to success and eminence at the bar. By the courtesy of the County Court, he was permitted to appear in cases pending before it almost as soon as he began to study. He found this privilege of such advantage to himself

that he was often heard to speak of this court with approbation as being an admirable school for the training and development of the young practitioner. He would never engage in the tirade against this part of our State judiciary, although the system in these latter days cannot be regarded as at all comparable with the County Courts in the earlier days of the Commonwealth. He looked upon it as an old friend, and, true to one of the loveliest traits of his character—that of adhering to his friends in storm as well as in sunshine—he continued a warm advocate of this court even to the end.

Having completed his preparatory course of study, he was, on the 28th of April, 1823, examined by the Hon. Judges Robert White, Dabney Carr and Lewis Summers, and was duly licensed by them to practice law in the several courts of Virginia. By studious application and force of character, he soon took position in the front ranks of his profession, and was recognized as one of the leading lawyers of the State. And that position he successfully maintained to the end of his professional career.

In 1826, he was appointed Prosecuting Attorney of the County Court of Wood; and in 1830, he succeeded to the same office in the Circuit Superior Court of Wood County. This position he held until 1852, when the office became elective, and he retired from its duties. He was also prosecutor in the Circuit Superior Court of Ritchie County, from the year 1842 to 1852. With him, this office was no sinecure; for, while its emoluments were very small, he brought to its duties the same diligence and untiring energy which characterized him in all his other undertakings. He guarded the interests of the counties and State, whose official he was, with the utmost care, and became a terror to evil-doers, while he was the admired and loved of the upright. He sought not the praise of men, but labored to have an approving conscience, because this, after all, is the best reward for duties honestly and faithfully performed. He was elected by the people of Wood County, and served them in the capacity of their Representative in the House of Delegates of Virginia six several times, his first session being in 1825, and his last in 1844. Here, too, he displayed his accustomed energy, and showed himself to be a wise and discreet legislator. His fellow Representatives soon found out his value, and acknowledged his worth. In a brief sketch, such as this is designed to be, it would be impossible to speak of his labors as a delegate with any degree of minuteness; but, happily, this is not necessary. Therefore, it will suffice to remark, that in each of the Legislatures to which he was returned, he filled a prominent position, and ably represented the claims and interests of his county and State to the entire satisfaction of his constituents.

In 1842, he was elected, by the Legislature of which he was a member, and duly commissioned Brigadier-General of the Twenty-third Brigade of the Militia of Virginia. This position he held until 1861, when the Constitutional Convention passed the ordinance of secession, and the peaceful avocations of the people were changed for the active duties of tent and field, in our late deplorable and fratricidal war.

In political sentiment, he belonged to the school of the distinguished patriots, Henry Clay and Daniel Webster, believed in public improvements by the General Government, protection to American industries, and in a liberal construction of fundamental law for the welfare and benefit of the people, in whose capability for self-rule and wise legislation he ardently trusted. In the historic convention of 1861, which met at Richmond, when clouds of war hovered darkly on the horizon, he was a member, sent with unanimous vote from the shores of the Ohio, to voice the loyalty and conservatism of his stalwart constituency. In that turbulent assembly he was noted for his eloquence, fervor and unfaltering devotion to "the Union, the Constitution, and the enforcement of the laws," almost risking his life in efforts to protect the interests of his people in Western Virginia, and stay the fury of secession. Upon his return home, the people with intense interest assembled to hear his clear and concise report of his efforts and the spirit which prevailed in the tidewater counties. He counseled firmness in the assertion of their rights under the Constitution, but moderation and wisdom in the execution of their wishes. Here, with his public report to the people among whom he grew up and prospered, and whom he loved, practically ended his public career, and in subsequent years, while his gifted sons took position in the contentions and duties of the hour, he retired to the more pleasant occupation of private business and home quietude. Nevertheless, he lost not his interest in events rapidly forming national history, or in the welfare of his city, county and State. All that concerned the interest of either, found a welcome place in his heart; and he sought the good of his people, by setting them an example of frugality and industry. He had studied well the principles on which our complex system of government was based, and was ever ready to give his countrymen a reason for that line of policy which he felt it incumbent on him to pursue. Hence, during and after the war he made several speeches, in all of which he exhorted to mutual forbearance, reconciliation and love, and counseled all to stand by the Constitution, as that instrument was expounded by the fathers in the purest and best days of the Republic. While he would have no compromise with the fanaticism which



would overthrow and destroy the best system of government ever devised by the wisdom of man, yet he was always conservative in his feelings and actions. Hence, in the Presidential canvass of 1876, while entertaining a high respect for the honesty, integrity, and patriotism of the Republican candidate, he espoused the cause of his competitor. He presided at a mass convention held in Parkersburg, and in introducing the distinguished son of his old friend, the late Thomas Ewing, as the chief speaker of the day, he made some remarks which showed that he understood clearly the issues involved in the canvass, and was not an indifferent spectator of what was going on around him. This taste of wisdom from his eloquent lips only excited the desire of his countrymen to hear him again. Accordingly, at their earnest solicitation, he appeared before them on the 1st day of November, and again addressed them on the then pending issues. "As he came before the crowded audience, the fires of his intellect flashed forth as in former years," and he clearly and ably reviewed the great political questions of the day. His reference to the past, and his anxieties for the welfare and happiness of his country in the future, as the cares of a long life were closing around him, were full of eloquence and power. His patriotism and zeal flashed in the brilliant sentences which he uttered on that occasion, and will long be remembered by those who then heard him. They came upon the audience like the farewell words of a patriarch to his children, admonishing them of duty and faithfulness to their country.

He was active and aided in every enterprise to benefit the community. When the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company sought right of way from the Potomac to the Ohio, he urged needed legislation, and was one of the earliest and largest contributors to the subscription of stock toward the building of the Northwestern Virginia Railroad, and his example, speeches, and influence urged to successful organization of the branch company and construction of the valuable road.

His means and his time were largely used in promoting, in recent years, the improvement of the Little Kanawha River. He formed a company, with his own funds to stock it, which erected locks and dams and made it navigable the year round. He organized and was president of the Second National Bank of Parkersburg from its formation. He was a member at various times of the Municipal Council, and Mayor of the City.

General Jackson was twice married: the first time in June, 1823, to Miss Emma G. Beeson, who departed this life in July, 1842; his second marriage, to Miss Jane E. B. Gardner, occurred in July, 1843. Of his domestic life, it

is needless here to speak. It was here that he found his greatest happiness, and in his home, in the bosom of his family, he realized his greatest earthly comfort. In his social life he was as gentle as he was apparently austere and positive with strangers, an indulgent parent, and a fond husband. He first won the affection of his children, and then commanded their respect as a parental prerogative: and that respect was not accorded through any sentiment of fear, but was freely bestowed through the strongest sentiment of filial affection.

Illustrative of his vitality and endurance, this little incident has been narrated: When in the regular army, about the year 1820, he was stationed at Pensacola, in the routine of military life, which was temporarily interrupted by an order to report at Washington headquarters. The trip between these two places, though not a short one even now with railroad facilities for the passage, in that primitive day had to be performed on horseback. Lieutenant Jackson promptly mounted his charger and rode all the way to the National Capital without a halt, save each night, traversing the States of Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia and Maryland. Upon reporting in person at the War Office, he was ordered to Baltimore on recruiting service, where he immediately presented himself, traveling solitarily as he had from Pensacola. After a few days in Baltimore, he received orders to report for duty again at Pensacola, and mounting the same horse he rode through Cumberland to Parkersburg, crossed the river there, traveled through Ohio to Maysville, at which point he recrossed the river, and pushing on through Kentucky and Tennessee—then a wilderness and populated by Indians of the Cherokee tribe—he reached his destination, having traveled, alone and upon the same horse, a distance of more than three thousand miles. Like his cousin, "Stonewall" Jackson, he was at home in the saddle. And, when the writer of this was a boy, he remembers distinctly of frequently seeing the General ride rapidly past from his farm toward his city home on a pacing steed, so gracefully and energetically that rider and pacer seemed one.

Amid the cares and responsibilities of an intensely busy life, he was pronounced in his religious convictions, and devoted to the welfare of Church as well as State. Although he was from conviction an Episcopalian, there being no church of his choice in Parkersburg, he, in early life, attached himself to the First Presbyterian Society, and remained with that denomination until the organization of the Episcopal Church, when, afterward, under the rectory of Rev. Thomas Smith, the first rector, whose remains sleep beneath the new edifice of worship, upon Juliana Street, he transferred membership,

and was ever after a consistent, active, and supporting member of Trinity Parish. He was for over forty years in its service as senior warden of that parish, which owes much of its sustenance, vitality and capability for Christian usefulness to his fostering care and solicitude.

At the dawn of the second century of our National existence, when we were just entering upon an era of wonderful progress, on the 1st day of January, 1877, the summons came to a typical, almost patriarchal home, and the spirit of General John J. Jackson quietly took its flight from earth to the realms of endless rest and reward.

He left behind him an example worthy of emulation by the young who struggle in life's battle without pecuniary or inherited aid. Temperate, industrious, persevering, with invincible purpose, he became the architect of his own fame and fortune. As a lawyer he was clear and profound. With a retentive memory and an enthusiastic style of speech and address, courts, juries and auditors were moved to humor or to tears. In law he was at the head of his profession; in business eminently successful, having accumulated a valuable estate in his cherished city, and in public enterprise liberal and stimulative. His intimacies and associations were with the foremost of Virginia's illustrious sons. Literary, eloquent, learned in his profession, devoted to his country, his church, his family, and the right as it was given him to see it, he has a noble place in history. Possessing great decision and firmness of character, he never surrendered his convictions to expediency, hence was not in the ordinary acceptance of the term a successful politician. His fame rests upon his legal ability and erudition, his patriotic and wise deeds and counsel, his benevolent and Christian course, and his illustrious example of integrity, industry and success.

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## JOHN JAY JACKSON.

\*It is justly claimed that there are times and opportunities, if properly utilized, that make men renowned. This is true. It is also true that some men are made to fit times when a crisis arises, and when a strong, firm will is essential to meet the pressing emergencies of the hour. In 1861, when the Nation was trembling in the balance, the subject of this sketch, although at

\*From "Prominent Men of West Virginia," by Hon. George W. Atkinson.

that time a man of note, became generally known all over the State as a newly-appointed United States Judge, and before whom many questions of grave importance came for consideration and adjudication. It was truly a trying hour; but the youthful jurist, whose every fiber was permeated with intense loyalty to his country's flag, met the issues squarely and faced the opposition to the Government with a courage that at times bordered on heroism. No man of that period had clearer apprehension of the magnitude of the rebellion on whose verge we stood, and the tremendous issues it involved. He had an instinctive sense of the awful forces that are unleashed by war. During its four years of continuance Judge Jackson did as much as any other West Virginian to maintain the unity of the Government, and the honor and integrity of the flag. And when the cloud of war had passed away and peace returned, he with others, refused to waste his energies in reviving ended conflicts, or to encourage his fellow-citizens to forsake practical duties in order to engage in the fruitless discussion of past grievances, whether real or imaginary. With a heart truly American, and with the energy of will of which the march of American progress is the truest and most vivid illustration, he urged the people to restore and build up waning industries, to renew hope in despairing hearts, and to open up new fields of enterprise in the boundless resources of the country. His nature, though intensely positive, yet his ear was ever ready to listen to the pleas of truth and mercy. No man can truthfully say that he ever persecuted anyone, either in open field or in secret inquisition. He always openly denounced what he conceived to be wrong wherever it appeared, in friend or foe. His nature was above that mean level where men sometimes consent to serve a cause, they even conceive to be just, in the dark and devious ways of fraud and conspiracy. On the contrary, he was an open, bold, outspoken citizen, and because of these manly characteristics, those who often differed from him, learned to admire and respect him.

One must know Judge Jackson well to fully appreciate his good qualities. Men often became offended at him because of their lack of knowledge of his natural traits of character. It must be admitted that in addition to a naturally positive will, he is also the possessor of strong convictions. But these peculiarities were often magnified by the observer's failure to appreciate and feel the generous heart and kindly disposition that were always uppermost in his nature. Like all positive men, Judge Jackson is strong and emphatic in his likes and dislikes. He utterly despises the mean, fondling, sniveling sneak who bends the suppliant hinges of the knee that thrift may follow fawning. No man like that could even for a moment gain access to his

mind or heart. His quick perception enables him to instantly detect the difference between the gold and the dross. His long and varied associations with men give him a vast knowledge of human nature. He is rarely deceived by anyone. He maturely considers all sides of every question that comes up before him. He never jumps at conclusions, but earnestly strives to get at the truth and the right, and never wavers in the discharge of duty. When his mind is once made up, one might as well try to stop the circling of the sun as to essay to change him. This trait of firmness he inherited from his father.

The subject of this sketch, in his continuous service on the bench of the United States Courts in West Virginia, has had to consider and decide some of the most important legal questions that have ever been presented in our courts. He has had great experience in the decision of suits involving titles to land, abstruse and difficult, that give rise to litigation. His decisions in bankrupt causes, admiralty causes, corporation cases, real estate causes, and criminal prosecutions, wherever they have been removed to the Supreme Court have generally been affirmed. It is on Judge Jackson's wide and solid experience as a jurist that his fame will finally rest. No judge has shown his ability to dispatch business, with greater ease and satisfaction than Judge Jackson.

Some judges delight to apply the penalties of the law. Judge Jackson is different. The writer has frequently seen him in his private room lamenting the necessity that had been forced upon him in the line of duty to the majesty of the law by imposing punishment on some violator.

Another strongly defined characteristic of Judge Jackson is his close and firm adherence to his friends. Like General Grant, he never turned his back upon a friend. With him, when a friendship was once gained, no power could shake it from its moorings. A true friend he would grasp with hooks of steel, and no tongue of vituperation or whisper of slander could prevail against him. A man like that will always be respected.

John Jay Jackson, eldest son of General John Jay Jackson, was born at Parkersburg, Virginia, August 4, 1824; graduated from Princeton College in 1845; studied law under his father and the Hon. John J. Allen, president of the Supreme Court of Virginia; was admitted to the bar the following year; was elected the first Prosecuting Attorney of Wirt County in 1848, and the same year was appointed to the same office in Ritchie County; was elected a member of the Virginia Legislature, from Wood County, in 1852, for a term of two years, and was re-elected in 1853. While there he took an active part

in the discussion relating to internal improvements and the questions growing out of the basis of representation. During these discussions he acquired a high reputation as a speaker and debater. He was an elector on the Whig tickets in 1852, '56 and '60. In the political campaigns in which he took part he was justly distinguished as one of the finest speakers on the hustings; and by his efforts in the region of the State where he lived, contributed greatly to the success of the Bell and Everett ticket in carrying Virginia in 1860. It was stated in the Richmond Whig, of that day, the organ of the party in Virginia, that the success of the ticket was largely due to him. In August, 1861, he was appointed United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, afterward re-appointed as Judge for the District of West Virginia. It can be truthfully said of him that he is an industrious, upright judge, and an honest man. It has often been remarked that "President Lincoln made no mistake when he appointed Judge Jackson."

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## JAMES MONROE JACKSON.

\*The Jackson family is perhaps the most noted of any other family in West Virginia. Scattered through several of the northwestern counties, they stand out conspicuously among their fellow-citizens as representative men who have left their impress upon the times in which they lived. General John Jay Jackson, the father of the subject of this sketch, was in his day the most distinguished citizen the County of Wood ever produced. His elder brother, John Jay Jackson, for more than a quarter of a century a distinguished Judge of the United States District Court; and his youngest brother, Jacob B. Jackson, an ex-Governor of the Commonwealth—saying nothing about the long line of their relatives, the most noted of whom was "Stonewall" Jackson, perhaps the greatest General the South ever produced. For ability, integrity and force of character the subject of this sketch stands in the front rank of this noted family.

James Monroe Jackson was born in Parkersburg, Virginia, December 3, 1825. He had a careful preparation for college, and in early life entered that celebrated institution of learning, Princeton College, from which he graduated

\*From "Prominent Men of West Virginia," by Hon. George W. Atkinson.

in his twentieth year. Like his father and elder brother, he chose the profession of the law, and after two years' study, under the direction of his father, was admitted to the Wood County Bar in 1847. By his natural talents and constant application, he rose rapidly to an enviable position in his profession. In May, 1856, he was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Wood County, and was re-elected at the close of his term. He was elected to and served as a member of the House of Delegates of West Virginia in 1870, in the proceedings of which body he took an active and a leading part. He was re-elected, and served in the Legislative session of 1871, after the removal of the State Capital to Charleston. He was a member of the Convention that sat at Charleston in 1872 and framed the second Constitution for the State of West Virginia. Being an able lawyer, he was a valuable member of that distinguished assembly. In October, 1872, he was elected to the office of Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, in which he resided, for the term of eight years, and was re-elected to the same position in 1880. His careful legal training, coupled with his strong common sense, fitted him for the judicial office, and it was not long after his first election until he made for himself the reputation of being among the very best judges in the State, and accordingly gave satisfaction to all with whom he had official dealings.

Though not per se a politician, yet at times he took a lively interest in public affairs. On many occasions he was urged to become a candidate for political preferment, notably for Congress and in 1888 he was nominated by the Democratic party—with which he had acted since the death of the old Whig organization—for a seat in the Fifty-first Congress. The campaign of that year was a spirited one, and the result in all four of the districts of the State was so close that it took the official vote to decide who had been victorious. Judge Jackson, however, was awarded the certificate of election.

Judge Jackson is a man of scholarly attainments, positive character, fixed principles and strong convictions. He is a sound lawyer, a ready debater, is thoroughly versed in the history and politics of the country, a close student of the provisions of the Constitution; all of which, supplemented by a large experience with men and affairs, equip him for public position and power.

By inheritance, as well as by the convictions of his own clear judgment, he was an earnest adherent of that wonderful old party, which, under the leadership of Henry Clay, attained such enviable distinction for its probity, its purity and its patriotism as will in all time provoke the emulation of all political organizations; a party which, if not always fortunate in the presentation of its

schemes of statecraft and the election of its candidates, ever maintained as its cardinal doctrine that the interests of the whole country were to be held superior to the gratification of individual ambition, and the prosperity of the people more to be valued than the triumph of the politician. These principles found in Judge Jackson a steadfast and uncompromising adherent.

The Judge has been twice married. His first wife was Miss Helen S. Seely, of Trumbull County, Ohio, whom he wedded October 5, 1851. She died in 1861, leaving four children, of whom three survive. In February, 1864, he again married, this time Miss Lucy Kincheloe, of Wood County. Since his retirement from the bench, Judge Jackson has been engaged in the active practice of his profession in the city of Parkersburg, where he has passed his entire life.

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## JACOB BEESON JACKSON.

\*From a family whose collateral branches extend into many States of the South, and whose name is not only historic but renowned and influential, destiny predetermined this personal boyhood friend of the writer to become one of the executives of our State.

His immediate ancestry were noted, upon both maternal and paternal sides, among the pioneers of Wood County, and along the Ohio River, whose beautiful waves sweep noiselessly through Mississippi's currents to gulf and farther sea. Upon his father's side are generals, jurists, statesmen; upon his mother's, who was a Beeson, and one of the oldest and most intelligent settlers of the section, was firmness, probity, amiability and mental and physical vigor. These combinations of character and constitution and innate worth manifest themselves in the career and public services of three brothers, John Jay, James Monroe, and Jacob Beeson, the youngest, imparting to each a wonderful similarity in appearance and action, yet an individual diversity which different events and connecting circumstances moulded into dissimilarity easily recognized.

The Sixth Governor of our Mountain State was born April 6, 1828. His early educational facilities were the best obtainable in the days of select

\*From "Prominent Men of West Virginia," by Hon. George W. Atkinson.



schools, when in Virginia, with exception of the recognized poor, every parent or guardian paid for the tuition of the young entrusted to his or her care. One of these excellent schools was under the management of Rev. Festus Hanks, whose every effort aimed to inspire in the boys oratorical tastes and a desire for education to fill the highest positions in the most creditable manner. Young Jacob always "spoke his piece" at the Friday afternoon exercises with force and effect, but never was credited with unusual industry or the eloquence which manifested itself so clearly in future days and political campaigns. He read law in the office of his distinguished father, and was admitted to the bar in 1852. Departing from the county of his nativity and the assisting influences of home, he began practice in the adjacent County of Pleasants at St. Marys. Genial and accommodating, he soon became popular among the voters, and was elected Prosecuting Attorney, which position he held acceptably eleven years.

In June, 1855, he married Maria, daughter of Benjamin Willard of Pleasants County, an accomplished and amiable lady. Their only son, William Wirt, was, during his father's executive term, his private secretary, and is now his law partner in Parkersburg, and bids fair to make an able and successful attorney.

In 1864, he removed to Wood County and opened his law office, securing a large and remunerative clientage. In 1870, he was elected Prosecuting Attorney holding the office six years. Near the close of this term he was elected to the House of Delegates, session of 1875, from the County of Wood, and was chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary. In 1879, he was elected Mayor of the City of Parkersburg. As a legislator of comprehensive views and approachability, he formed a more extensive personal acquaintance with leaders of public opinion over the State, and in 1880 he was enthusiastically nominated as the standard bearer of the Democratic party, and elected Governor by a plurality of 16,136 votes, over Hon. George C. Sturgiss, Republican, with 44,838 votes, and Napoleon B. French, Greenbacker, with 13,027 votes. In this campaign, with a triangular candidacy, Mr. Jackson personally addressed the people in nearly every county, with telling effect, with inspiring enthusiasm, and with the disadvantage of having as competitor in the Republican nominee one of the most accomplished, logical and persuasive speakers ever upon the arena of discussion. His discharge of the important trust committed to him by the will of the people was efficient, positive and eminently satisfactory to his political friends. One of the most important questions which required his considera-

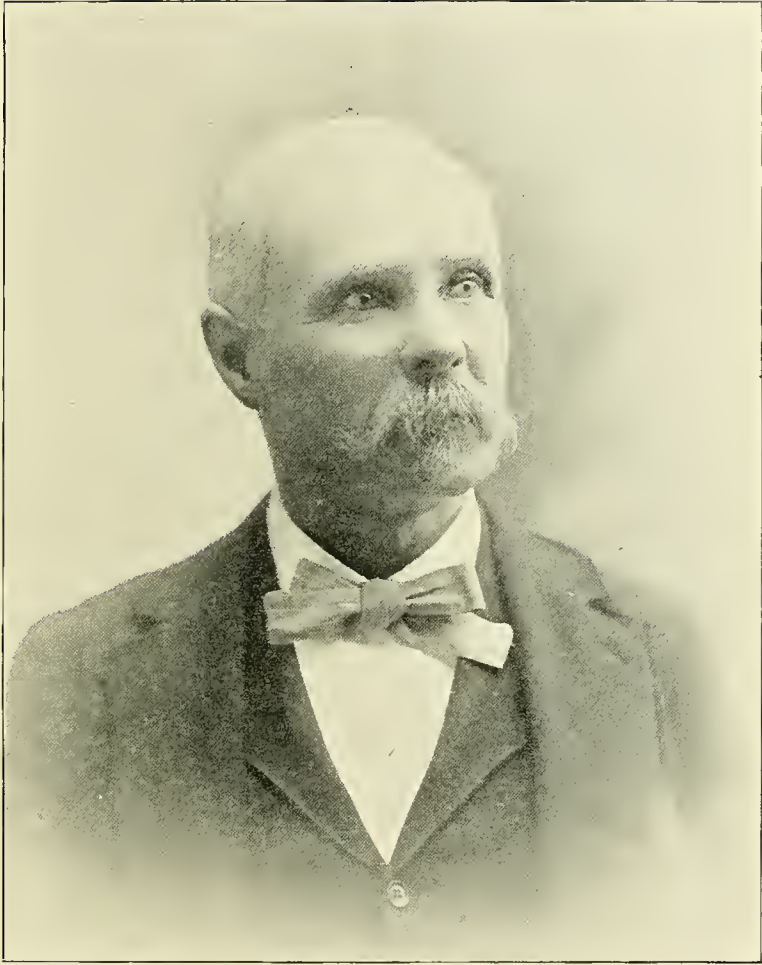
tion during his incumbency of the Executive Chair, was the assessment of personal property for taxation, and what property, under the constitution, should be exempt from the burden of taxation. His celebrated assessment order provoked a wide discussion in the State, and a great diversity of opinion, but it is believed by many persons, in the light of subsequent events, and after the excitements of political debate are over, that it was a wise and proper order, and was entirely in consonance with the constitution of the State. His action as Governor upon this question received the judicial sanction of the Supreme Court of the State, as fully appears by reference to the case of *The State, etc., vs. Buchanan*; 24 West Virginia Reports, page 362.

At the expiration of his executive term, he again resumed law practice in Parkersburg, the home of Senators and Governors and Judges. He is one of the best and most reliable legal counselors in either of the Virginias, and has been employed in many important cases in the State, Supreme and Federal Courts. His administration of the office of Governor, from 1881 to 1885, was forceful, clean and impressive, indicating that the honors were worthily bestowed in his nomination and election. He has added, by his official career, to the prestige of an already renowned and nationally historic name.

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## COLONEL ROBERT WHITE.

The finger of time is one of the most satisfactory and reliable indorsers of a man's business or professional career usually, and this has proven to be true in the case of Colonel Robert White, who is one of the old and eminent legal lights of West Virginia. He is a lineal descendant of Robert White, who was a Scotch surgeon in the British navy, and who married the daughter of John Hoge, near York, Pennsylvania. The grandfather of the subject of this sketch, Robert White, was a resident of Winchester, Pennsylvania, and at the early age of seventeen years became an officer in the Colonial Army during the Revolution. He was badly wounded at the Battle of Monmouth, a gun shot breaking one of his thigh bones, and he also received a blow on the head from a musket in the hands of a Hessian soldier, the scar of which he carried to his grave. He was carried from the battlefield to his home in Winchester, where he was confined to his bed for two years. During this time he took up the study of law, was admitted to the bar, and



Robt. White



was shortly after made Judge of his district, and still later Judge of the General Court of Appeals of Virginia, holding the latter position until his death at Winchester in 1832. He was married to Miss Arabella, daughter of John Baker, Sr., of Berkeley County, Virginia, and his wife, Judith Wood, daughter of Peter and Susanna (Howard) Wood, and granddaughter of Henry Howard of Howard Hall, England, and of the House of Norfolk. A brother of Robert White, Alexander White, was a statesman of more than ordinary note during the Revolutionary period, and was a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses at the same time with Patrick Henry, and tradition has it that the latter never cast a vote without consulting Mr. White. He afterward became a member of the First Congress of the United States, ably discharging his duties, and was known as one of the most eloquent speakers of his day. The father of Colonel Robert White was John B. White, who, from the time he was twenty-one years old until his death at Richmond, Virginia, in October, 1862, was Clerk of both Circuit and County Courts of Hampshire County, Virginia (now West Virginia), and a man of highest character and well beloved. He was married to Frances A., daughter of Christian Striet, a Lutheran minister, and a friend and companion of General Muhlenburg of the Revolutionary Army. Rev. Striet was pastor of a church in Winchester from the close of the Revolutionary War until 1830, in which year he died. Colonel White's mother was called from this life in 1867. She became the mother of twelve children. Christian was a Captain in the Confederate Army, and since the war has been Clerk of the County Court of Hampshire County, West Virginia; Alexander, who was also a soldier in the Confederate Army, died in 1884; Henry, the youngest of the sons, is living at Romney, West Virginia. Colonel Robert White was born on the 7th of February, 1833, and obtained his initiatory education in the common schools of Virginia. He was in the clerk's office with his father for six years, after which he became a student of law in the school of Judge Brockenbrough at Lexington, Virginia, and in 1854 was admitted to the bar. He entered upon the practice of his profession in Romney, and just about one year before the opening of the Civil War he became Captain of an old Virginia uniformed volunteer military company, and at the opening of the war was ordered by the Governor of Virginia to report to "Stonewall" Jackson at Harper's Ferry. He served with ability throughout the war, and was made Major, then Lieutenant-Colonel, and finally Colonel. He remained in the service until May 14, 1865, saw some hard service, and was in many of the most bloody combats that took

place on Virginia soil. After the war he returned to Romney, and owing to his father's death and to the fact that he was the eldest of the family, he virtually became its head, and at once entered actively on the practice of his profession, being later associated with John J. Jacob until the latter was elected to the office of Governor. Whilst residing at Romney, the place of his birth, Colonel White commanded perhaps the largest practice in his profession ever had by any other lawyer in that region of the State. He devoted his best efforts toward the building up of that beautiful region, the South Branch Valley, which had been so desolated by war. He prepared and personally looked after the passage through the Legislature of the Act establishing the Institution for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind of West Virginia, and through his most earnest efforts that institution was located in his native town of Romney, and for years he was one of the directors. He also, while living at Romney, projected the present railroad connecting that town with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and was for years the president of the local company. In 1876 Colonel White was elected to the office of Attorney-General of the State, and on the 1st of April, 1877, removed to Wheeling, which was then the capital, and ably filled this office for four years. When Colonel White left his old home to remove to Wheeling, the respect and love of the people of Romney for himself and family was marked; the people of all classes turned out with two bands to escort them to the suburbs of the town, where an address was delivered by one of the old citizens, and they left that old home amid the tears and with the regrets of the people. He declined to accept a re-election to that office, but has since been twice elected to represent Ohio County in the State Legislature, first in 1885 and again in 1891, and both terms made an able, incorruptible and active legislator, and was both sessions Chairman of the Finance Committee and also on other important committees. The Legislature of 1891 was one composed largely of members of the same political faith as Colonel White. These members signed and presented to the Colonel, at the close of the session, a testimonial such as, perhaps, no other public official ever received in the State, and one of which he may well be justly proud. It is as follows:

"Hon. Robert White:

"Sir: Among the members of the Legislature of West Virginia there is a general desire to express to you in some formal way their appreciation of the great zeal, ability and untiring industry that has marked your course in the Legislature and this session. As Chairman of the Finance Committee

and one of the Judiciary Committee of the House the duties incumbent upon you have been exceedingly important and exacting, both in committee room and on the floor of the House. In the performance of these duties you have been so zealous, industrious, painstaking and conservative as to attract the attention and win the respect and confidence of the entire Legislature and to deserve the thanks and gratitude not only of your fellow-members but of the people of the State at large. Permit us, therefore to tender to you some expression of our appreciation of the benefit to the State derived from your earnest labors, and to say that we all feel that you have fully deserved, not only our commendation, but a right to the gratitude and respect of your fellow-citizens throughout the State of West Virginia."

He has filled the office of City Solicitor two terms, and has been for many years one of the counsel of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company. He has had charge of some of the most important cases that have ever come up before the courts of his State. He has long been a ruling elder in the First Presbyterian Church of Wheeling, and represented his presbytery at the continental session of the General Assembly at Philadelphia. From early manhood he has been a Mason, and has been Grand Master of the State of West Virginia. Politically he has always espoused Democratic principles. He was married to the daughter of J. C. Vass, an official in the old Bank of Virginia in Richmond, in 1859, her name being Ellen E. They had six children, only one of whom is living: Catherine, wife of Charles M. Ferrell, of Richmond, Virginia. The others were: John B., who died at the age of four years; James C., died in infancy; Robert, died after the war; Marshall V., died in 1894 at the age of twenty-seven, a business man of Philadelphia, and Nellie, who died at the age of fourteen years. Colonel White and his wife have a comfortable home at 125 Fourteenth Street, Wheeling, and are spending their declining years surrounded by many warm friends.

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## C. M. AND J. B. HART.

Among the flourishing enterprises of Clarksburg, West Virginia, none have developed more rapidly or brought to its promoters more substantial returns than the C. M. & J. B. Hart Manufacturing Company. These gentlemen, C. M. and J. B. Hart, succeeded their father, Ira Hart, in the foundry

and machine business, which was established by the latter in 1852, and carried on up to 1879, when his death occurred. His two sons, Charles M. and John B., then took charge of the business and have conducted it very successfully up to the present time. The plant is the largest and they have the best equipped machine shop in the State. An extensive business is carried on; work is carried on in the foundry, machine and wood-working departments, and at the present time they are giving special attention to high-speed automatic electric light engines. This is the only firm in the State manufacturing these goods. They also make a specialty of circular saw-mills, boilers and all kinds of engines up to one hundred horse-power. Ira Hart was the inventor of the Vibrating Threshing Machine, which was sold to an Ohio company, Ogden, Taylor & Company, of Canton, Ohio, which firm made a large fortune out of it. Mr. Hart was a man of more than ordinary inventive genius, and many of his creations have become important. The Hart Brothers do an extensive business, and their goods are carried to all the States east of the Mississippi River. They do an annual business of about \$50,000, twenty-five to forty men are employed, and first-class goods are turned out. The brothers put in the first electric light plant in Clarksburg, and they, in connection with W. F. Richards, formed the company and established the plant in 1888. This they sold in 1891 to the Clarksburg Gas Company. John B. Hart was one of the three commissioners who put in the waterworks in Clarksburg. He was born in that city in 1852, and secured a thorough education in Northwestern Academy, Clarksburg. Later he entered the West Virginia University at Morgantown, and still later took a special course in New York City in a mechanical school. Returning to Clarksburg he served a five-years' apprenticeship in the shops of his father, and then, on account of ill health, took a trip to California, where, amid the mountains of that State, he soon improved sufficiently to return to the East in 1878. He then became a member of the firm of Harrison & Hart, dealers in stoves and tinware, and was in company with Mr. Harrison until the death of Ira Hart, when he and John B. Hart took charge of the business of the machine works. He is an active young man, thoroughly understands his business, and is socially a pleasant, congenial gentleman. In politics he is with the Republican party, as was his father. He was a member of the Republican Convention at Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1892, has also been delegate to Congressional and State Conventions, and has been chairman of the County Executive Convention. He has held many an office of public trust, and has the confidence and respect of all. Mr. Hart is a member of the Sons of the Revolution, and is one of the Board of Examiners of the society



for West Virginia. Several times he has been a member of the City Council. He is at present a director in the West Virginia Bank of Clarksburg, and is one of the leading men of the city. He was married in 1883 to Miss Du Bois, of Wheeling. She died in 1884. John B. Hart was born in Clarksburg, July 26, 1860, and with his brother, attended Northwestern Academy. Later he entered the Chickering Institute at Cincinnati, Ohio, took a mechanical course, and in 1884 entered Cornell University, at Ithaca, New York, and took a special course in steam engineering. Leaving school he returned to Clarksburg and put his knowledge to practical use, for he embarked with his brother in business in 1879, and simply attended the latter school to gain a knowledge of the trade. He immediately gave his attention to special lines of high-speed engines, and as a result has to-day one of the finest engines in the country. He is manager of the works, and has inherited an inventive taste from his father, for he has invented the engine they manufacture, steam pumps, and many other useful things. Mr. Hart is a great reader and is well posted on all the current topics of the day. Though comparatively a young man, he has attained more than ordinary success and gives promise of a future that shall confirm his right to a leading place among Clarksburg's most prominent men. Like his brother he is a Republican in politics. He was appointed commissioner with R. T. Saunder and T. M. Jackson to build the city waterworks. At present he is vice-president of the Traders' Company, and is a stockholder in the Traders' Bank, and also a stockholder in the Bank of West Virginia. A member of the Sons of the Revolution. He selected his wife in Miss Isabella Willis, of Clarksburg, and they have one son, Edward.

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## JACOB MINTER--DECEASED.

Surely and rapidly the great and aged men, who in their prime entered the wilderness and claimed the virgin soil as their heritage, are passing to their graves. The number remaining who can relate the incidents of the first days of settlement is becoming small indeed, so that an actual necessity exists for the collection and preservation of events without delay, before all the early settlers are cut down by the scythe of time. Among those who have passed to that bourne from whence no traveler returns is Jacob Minter,

one of the representative old settlers of this region. He was born in Fauquier County, Virginia, in 1800, and was one of nine children born to his parents, Jacob and Hannah (Bailey) Minter, natives of Fauquier County, Virginia, born in 1771 and 1777 respectively. The children were named as follows: Joseph, died in Lewis County; Jacob, subject; John Bailey; Mary, married John Burnside; William; Samuel J.; Elizabeth, wife of Philip Cox; Hannah, married Amos Furr, and Elmore. The parents came by wagon to Lewis County, West Virginia, about 1806, and later crossed the line into Harrison County and settled on a tract of land in the woods. There they improved a good farm and passed the closing scenes of their lives, he dying in August, 1829, and she in 1849. For many years they were worthy members of the Baptist Church, and Mr. Minter built the first Baptist Church in this vicinity, naming the church and the creek Broad Run from their old church in Virginia. In addition to farming he was a trader in those early days and also followed carpentering. His father, who was of French origin, died when he was but a boy, and he was subsequently bound out until twenty-one years old. During that time he learned the carpenter trade, which came useful to him in later years. He was a man of unusual good judgment and sense, although with little education, and very industrious and persevering. He had one sister, Elizabeth, who married William Bailey, an early settler of Lewis County. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Carr Bailey, died in Virginia, his native State. Owing to the scarcity of schools in those pioneer days Jacob Minter received little or no education, and in 1825 was married to Miss Clarissa, daughter of John and Margaret Neely, who came from New York to Harrison County many years ago. Mr. Neely was a soldier in the Revolution. Mrs. Minter was born in Harrison County and died about 1867. She was a Baptist in her religious views. Mr. and Mrs. Minter became the parents of six children: Nevel married Miss Mary Martin, and resides on the old farm in Harrison County; Jane (deceased) was the wife of John W. Norris; Captain Guinn; Ann (deceased); Joseph, who married Fannie Rose, and is now a prominent farmer of Cooper County, Missouri; and Elizabeth, single. Following his marriage, Mr. Minter settled in the woods fifteen miles from Clarksburg, and improved a good farm. There his death occurred in 1867. A Whig in politics previous to the war, he later became a Republican and remained with that party until his death. He was Captain of the militia during the war. An honest, industrious citizen, strictly self-made, he deserved the utmost credit for his perseverance. His son, Captain Guinn Minter, who with his brother Nevel, owns the old home place of about 600

acres, is one of the best farmers in the county and everything about his farm proclaims his industry and good management. He was educated in the common schools and in October, 1861, enlisted in Company C, Tenth West Virginia Infantry, as a private. Soon after he was made Sergeant and operated in West Virginia until 1864, doing valuable service. He then joined the Army of the Potomac, and fought in the valley campaign of 1864, and was in the fight at Appomattox Court House. Previous to this, in 1863, he was made first Lieutenant and in 1865 he was promoted to the rank of Captain, commanding the company until the war closed. He was a brave and valuable soldier, always at his post, never sick a day, and although he escaped being wounded, he had his clothes shot full of holes many a time. He was discharged in 1865 and mustered out at Richmond. In 1888 he was elected to the Legislature and served on the Committee of Finance and Roads and Internal Improvements. He was in the extra session of 1889, during the celebrated Goff-Fleming contest for Governor. For seventeen years, Captain Minter was Postmaster of Kincheloe Postoffice, and for a number of years has been treasurer of Jackson Lodge No. 35, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, at Good Hope, of which he is an active member.

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### WILLIAM M. LATE, M. D.

The noble profession of medicine affords to the student in that science a never-ending source of investigation and experiment. New remedies are constantly being discovered, steady progress is being made in all branches of the calling, and new diseases are presenting themselves under varying forms of civilization. It can be truthfully said of this science that no other can equal it in the great strides it is making toward a comprehensive grasp of the whole subject of man, in relation to health and disease and the prevention and cure of ills to which the flesh is heir. In the noble army of workers in this field may be found the name of William M. Late, who is deservedly classed among the prominent physicians of this section. He was born in Rappahannock County, Virginia, October 4, 1833, a son of John and Elizabeth (Woodside) Late, the former of whom was born in Maryland in 1796, of German parents, who came to this country at an early day. While growing up John learned to speak both English and German. When a young man he removed to Virginia, and in that State lived on and tilled a plantation

until his death in April, 1837. He left an estate valued at ten or twelve thousand dollars, besides a number of negroes. He was married in Virginia, his wife being a member of one of the prominent old families of that State and of Irish descent. She was born in 1808, and had four sisters, Susan, Sarah, Clara and Mary, and one brother, William, all of whom died in Virginia. In 1892, she was called from this life at the advanced age of eighty-three years, having lived a useful, Christian life. She was left an orphan when four years old and was reared by an uncle, William Allen, of Fredericksburg, Virginia, there educated, but later made her home with an aunt, the widow of Major Eatham, in Rappahannock County, Virginia, where she met and married John Late in 1828, their union resulting in the birth of two children: Dr. William Late and Mary C. Late, who was an invalid all her life and who died but a few months before her mother. After the death of John Late in 1837 his widow married Dr. William Duncan, of Loudoun County, Virginia, in 1842, and in 1845 the family moved to Bridgeport, Harrison County, Virginia (now West Virginia), and here Dr. Duncan was engaged in the practice of his profession. His wife bore him six children: William, an attorney of Independence, Kansas, has lived in that State for the past twenty years; John and James, well-known citizens of Bridgeport; Anna; Elizabeth, and Amanda, the wife of A. J. Lodge. Dr. Duncan died in 1868 at the age of seventy-two, having been a tiller of the soil as well as a practitioner of the healing art. The early days of Dr. William M. Late were passed on a farm and in attending the country schools. After reaching manhood he took up the study of medicine with Dr. Duncan, and in 1853 he took a course of lectures at the Medical University of Maryland, and in 1854 entered the University of Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated as an M. D. in 1855. He at once began practicing in Bridgeport, where he has continued to make his home up to the present time. While the Civil War was in progress he was appointed Surgeon of the One Hundred and Thirty-eighth Virginia Militia, and served in the same until the Spring of 1863, but was not in active service. He is giving all his attention to his profession and is doing a general practice. He is a member of the State Medical Association, the State Board of Health from 1883 up to the present time, and has otherwise been active in his professional work. When a boy he was Deputy-Sheriff of Harrison County and conducted the first election under the new constitution in Bridgeport in the fifties. He has been a member of the Bridgeport Council for three years, and in politics has always been a Democrat, and a member of many State and county conventions, holding the

office of Chairman in the latter frequently. The Doctor is a Master Mason and is a charter member of Bridgeport Lodge No. 63, which was named in his honor. In 1893 and 1894 he was Master of the lodge, and has always been deeply interested in the workings of this order. Up to 1858 or 1859 he supported the Whig party, having been reared in that belief, but he then changed his politics and ever since has been a staunch supporter of Democratic principles. The Doctor owns a fine farm of five hundred acres near Bridgeport, and also another of equal proportions, both of which are devoted to farming and grazing. In addition to this he owns some coal lands and is interested in the Bridgeport Gas Coal Company, the mines being located near Bridgeport on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. He has also operated in oil at White Oak. He is a director of the West Virginia Bank of Clarksburg, and was one of the organizers of the West Virginia State Agricultural Fair at Clarksburg in 1867, and was for fifteen years a director in the same. He has made a large fortune at his profession and in the handling of stock, and is in the enjoyment of an abundance of this world's goods. The Doctor was married to Miss Ella, daughter of William and Frances (Hawkins) Harrison, of Bentley Springs, Morgan County, West Virginia, both native Virginians, the former of whom died in 1859 and the latter in 1883. Mrs. Late was born in Morgan County, and was the only daughter of five children, her brothers being Frank, Henry C., William and P. D., the first and last mentioned of whom are dead. The Doctor and his wife have two children: Fannie D. and Basil G., living, and John A., who died in infancy. Dr. and Mrs. Late are members of the Baptist Church, and their pleasant and comfortable home has become noted for its hospitality. Their son is fitting himself for a military life in a military school at Waynesborough, while their daughter has spent two or three years at Chautauqua Lake, New York, and is a cultured and refined young lady, especially proficient in music and painting.

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## J. I. CARPENTER.

A native of the county in which he now resides and a son of a family whose history was identified with the State in days of earlier and simpler style of living, Mr. Carpenter has been identified with every movement of interest and he is a representative citizen of this section. He was born June 17, 1843.

and his youthful days were passed in assisting on his father's farm, and in attending the subscription schools. When he had arrived at the age of seventeen his mother died and the family was subsequently scattered. He was employed as a farm hand and afterward was in a saw mill, but continued to work and save his means until 1869, when he married. Soon after he came to this locality and purchased his present farm—102 acres—which he improved and made one of the finest tracts in the county. He gives most of his attention to stock-raising, principally cattle and sheep, and has found this profitable, the country containing much good grazing land. In 1861 he enlisted in the Tenth Virginia Regiment, General Lee's Army, and continued in service until the close of the war. He was in all the principal battles of Virginia, Bull Run, Seven Pines, Wilderness, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, etc., and was wounded in the shoulder at the last named battle. He was taken prisoner there, but escaped from the guards and returned to his command the same day he was captured. He was in the hospital for some time, as in addition to his wound he had trouble with his eyes. After recovering he joined his command and remained with the same until the surrender. When the war closed he started to return home, but stopped in the Valley of Virginia, where he was employed as a farm hand for about a year. Returning to Harrison County he went to work, and after his marriage, as above stated, began handling stock, which has netted him rich returns. His parents, John D. and Mary A. (Romine) Carpenter, were natives of Loudoun County, Virginia, and of English origin. The paternal grandfather, William Carpenter, was a farmer, but little more is known of him. The maternal grandfather, Isaac Romine, was of an old Virginia family, and a farmer of considerable prominence. John D. Carpenter also followed farming and has spent his days in this county, being now eighty-nine years old. His wife was of German origin and died in 1862. She held membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Carpenter is a Baptist. Their nine children were named as follows: Jacob, served through the war, and died in 1867; J. I. (subject); John W., served in the Confederate army, and now lives in Kentucky; F. R., also served in the Confederate army; Wright B., a farmer of this county; Charles, this county; Isaac, this county; Mary (deceased); and Sarah (deceased), was the wife of John Garrett. The Carpenter family furnished the Confederate army four good soldiers and all returned home alive. Two received wounds and one was a prisoner at Camp Chase for some time. Our subject chose his wife in Miss Rebecca Thompson, daughter of William Thompson, a farmer, and a native of this county. He was of Irish descent

and died in 1857. To Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter the following children have been born: Ida A., at home; Hugh W., attending school, as are also the two younger children, Willie K. and Estella. Mrs. Carpenter, who was born July 7, 1853, died April 11, 1885. She was a member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Carpenter is also a member of that church, as is his daughter Ida. In politics he is a Democrat.

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## WILLIAM WILSON CORK.

The office of Superintendent of the Infirmary of Harrison County is a responsible one and one that requires special adaptability to fill it in a satisfactory manner. The present Superintendent, Mr. William Wilson Cork, has been in that position for some time and has proven a most faithful and diligent public servant. He is a native of Harrison County, born in 1834, and a descendant of early settlers here. His grandfather, George Cork, was born in Maryland, but left that State and settled in Morgan County, Virginia, where he remained until 1800. He then came to Harrison County, West Virginia, and first located at Wilsonburg. Later he removed to Ross County, Ohio, and there died. He was a drummer with Lieutenant Harrison in the War of 1812. His wife died at Bainbridge, Ohio. Their children were: John (deceased), of Ohio; George; Susan (deceased) was the wife of Edward Keys; Mary, wife of Nicholas Waters, died in Indiana; Andrew, died in Illinois; Peter, father of subject; Jacob, died in Harrison County; Daniel, died in Ohio, and Harrison, also died in Ohio. Peter Cork, the sixth in order of birth of these children, was born in Harrison County, West Virginia, and was married there to Miss Nancy Hurdman. He was a contractor and saw-mill man and led a very active and industrious life. His death occurred in 1862. His wife died previous to the war. The children born to them were named as follows: Harrison, who was killed by a team when but a boy; Jane (deceased), was the wife of O. P. Grandy; Elizabeth; Rohamy; Drazilla, wife of C. S. Mitchell; Harriet, wife of William L. Mitchell; Mary, wife of Robert Hammrick; Jackson (deceased); Benjamin B., of Texas, has had a very checkered career, has been in numberless conflicts and has been wounded nine times. He has traveled in every State of the Union except Florida; John D. (deceased), was in the Third Virginia Cavalry, during the Civil War, and was drillmaster. He was in Andersonville Prison eleven months; and William Wilson, the original of this notice. The

last named received but little schooling during his youth, and during the war served for a time in the militia, rendering more valuable service than many who entered the army. In June, 1861, he married Miss Hester Ann Sullivan, whose father died in Harrison County, where Mrs. Cork was born. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cork: Nettie Nevada, wife of Irvin Maxwell, and Dorsey W. Mr. Cork has been a lifelong resident of Harrison County, and followed butchering in Clarksburg for twenty-six years. For the last seven years he has been Superintendent of the Poor Farm, and has given general satisfaction. He owns over one hundred acres of fine coal land near Mount Clare. Politically he is a Republican, and was Commissioner of Election in 1860 and 1864. He was one of the very few in this section who voted for Lincoln in the former year.

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## DANIEL STOUT.

The life narrative of the head of a family is interesting, not only to his posterity, but also to the citizens of the section in which he has resided, and this truth is doubly true when such a man has established for himself and his children a reputation for integrity, character and ability as has Daniel Stout, the original of this notice. He was born in Harrison County, West Virginia, in 1819. His father, James Stout, was born in New Jersey, in 1781, and when about three or four years old came with his parents to Harrison County, where he grew up and married Miss Phoebe Jackson. He became a wealthy farmer by his industry and good management, and passed the remainder of his days in Harrison County, dying in 1863. He served in the War of 1812, and was a Democrat in politics. His father, Caleb Stout, was one of the first settlers of Harrison County, coming here immediately after the Revolutionary War and at a time when there were no wagon roads this side of the mountains. He brought one of the first, if not the first, wagons ever seen in Harrison County and settled in Clarksburg, where he died many years later, aged ninety-six years. He served with Washington through the Revolutionary War, was captured once and spent the Winter a prisoner in Canada. He finally made his escape, and although he had no shoes, stockings or clothing, except an old overcoat, and suffered untold hardships, finally made his way to his command. He was of German parentage. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth La Baw, died in Harrison County, when our subject



was a small boy. Their children were as follows: Gideon, David, Samuel, Titus, James, Jeremiah, Ellen and Delia Ann. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Edward Jackson, was a native of England, but came to America and settled in Harrison County, West Virginia, at an early date. He married Miss Martha Miller. When the original of this notice was about seven years old he was left motherless and his father married Miss Mary Watson. He was one of six children born to the first union: Samuel (deceased), Nathan (deceased), Edward J. (deceased), Daniel, Martha (deceased), and Irene, wife of Lewis McDaniel. Our subject received his scholastic training in the common schools and was early trained to the duties of farm life. In 1849, he married Miss Emeline Boothe, a native of Harrison County, West Virginia, and the daughter of Houston and Ingiba (Thompson) Boothe, natives of Randolph and Barbour Counties respectively. Our subject's marriage resulted in the birth of five children: Martha, wife of Marshall Martin; Ingiba, wife of J. I. Alexander; Loverna, wife of E. L. Young; Emma, wife of Jesse Henney, and Loyd. Since their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stout have lived on their present farm, which consists of about 190 acres of good land and for a number of years Mr. Stout took considerable pains in the breeding of fine stock. Politically he has been a life-long Democrat and cast his first Presidential vote for James K. Polk, in 1844. He and wife are worthy members of the Missionary Baptist Church.

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## D. W. BOGGESS.

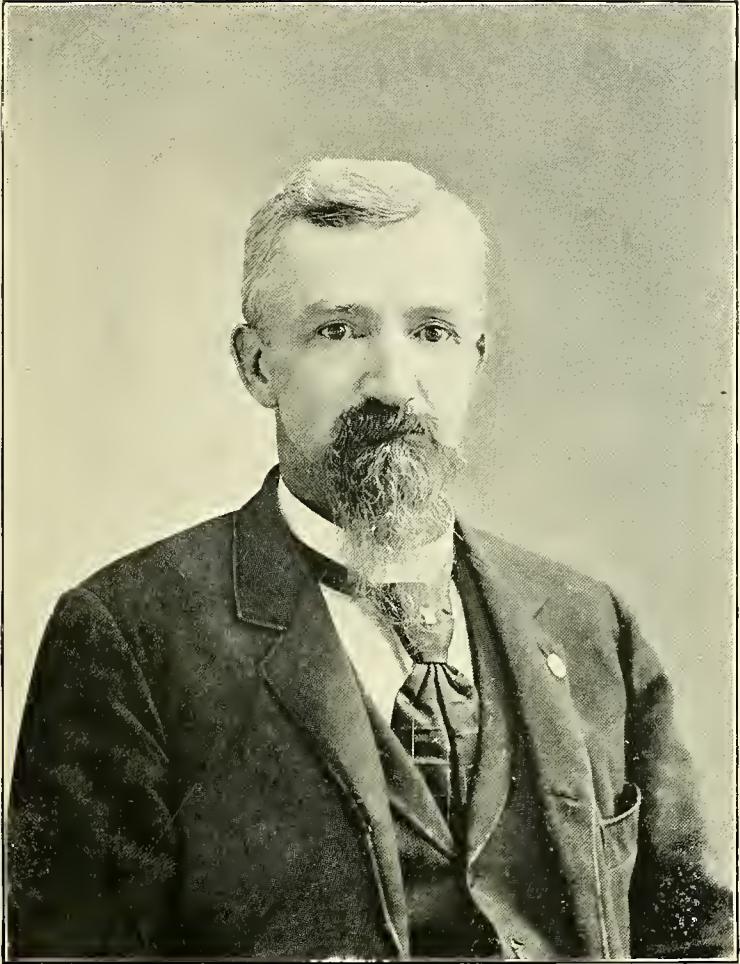
This gentleman is well known as one of Cherry Camp's oldest merchants and now the most prominent and successful business man of the place. He is a product of Harrison County, West Virginia, born January 17, 1834, and in early life learned the milling business, when not attending the subscription schools of those days. In 1859, when twenty-six years old, he married and afterward bought a farm which he cultivated for three years. Selling out he came to Cherry Camp, this county, about 1866, and as the town had been laid out by J. Good & Son, he opened a mercantile store here, the first in the place. This is a flourishing little town of about 150 inhabitants, with stores, a Methodist Church and a good graded school. Good & Son had the postoffice established about 1863. When he first came to this place, Mr.

Boguess was engaged in the saw mill business for two years, but then branched out in his present enterprise. He first rented a building, but the next year built a store, and now has branch stores, one at Wilsonburg, another at Central Station and still another at Salem. Mr. Boguess owns two or three improved farms, a fine residence and several stores. He still carries on his business here, and now holds the office of Postmaster. On account of the fine grazing land in this State he considers sheep-raising a profitable business. He has leased some of his land for the development of oil and gas, and has rich coal mines on his place. His wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Hardin, was the daughter of Thomas and Mary A. Hardin, both natives of old Virginia, and both now deceased. The five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Boguess were as follows: Clara E., married R. W. Young, a merchant of Salem; Stanley T., a physician of Brandensville, West Virginia; Cora, wife of William R. Ervin, is now deceased, as is also Mr. Ervin. They left one child, Thomas H., who makes his home with our subject; Harvey H., now Madison, Wisconsin; and Nettie G., at home. Politically, Mr. Boguess is a Democrat. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject is the eldest of six children born to Samuel and Tobitha (Womsley) Boguess, both natives of this State, whither their parents came at an early date. Samuel Boguess was a miller by trade, and followed this through life. During the latter part of his life he made his home with our subject, dying there in 1886. Both he and wife, who died in 1869, were Methodists. Their children were: D. W. (subject), Melvina, Sarah, John, Matthew and Elizabeth A. The father married again and these sons were born: Samuel, Thomas and Hale. After the death of the father his widow and three sons moved to Missouri, where they reside at the present time. Our subject has been the architect of his own fortune and deserves much credit for his perseverance.

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## FRED A. LANG.

Success in any calling is an indication of close application, industry and faithfulness. It is something to be proud of and the world is better for the life of every successful man. It is a stimulus for others less fortunate in the fray, and an example for them to emulate. The thought which presents



*Fr. A. Lang*



itself to the conservative and far-seeing mind when the question is propounded as to what essentials are necessary to a man's success in business, is that they are industry, sobriety and economy, and the history of all well-established enterprises like that conducted by Fred A. Lang, will corroborate this. Mr. Lang is the proprietor of the Clarksburg Marble and Granite Works, and is a gentleman of marked business ability and foresight. He employs about twenty men, has several men on the road, and has a number of fine workmen. Mr. Lang is a product of Washington County, Pennsylvania, born in Washington, April 25, 1846, son of David and Catherine (Foster) Lang. The father was born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1808, and a son of Joseph Lang, who passed his entire life in the old country. David Lang came to America in 1840, when a single man, settled in Washington, Pennsylvania, and was engaged as a marble cutter and worker on architectural stone. He was one of the first to do any stone cutting of a fine class in that section of the Keystone State, and some of his work is still to be seen in the old court house in Washington. He is still living, but has retired from the active duties of life. He married in Washington, Pennsylvania, the daughter of Frederick Foster, who was an early settler in Washington, and a butcher by trade. He was of German descent. Mr. and Mrs. Lang became the parents of eight children, five of whom grew up, viz.: Elizabeth, the wife of J. A. Plymire, of San Francisco, California; Fred A.; Mary, who is Mrs. Farmer, of California; Jennie, the wife of W. S. Matthews, of Nebraska; and Ella, the wife of S. H. Fittro, of Clarksburg, West Virginia. In politics the father was a Democrat and in religion a Presbyterian. Fred A. Lang was reared in his native county and there attended the common schools and three years at Washington College. Later he entered Duff's Business College, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and there studied medicine, taking a course at Miami Medical College, of Cincinnati, Ohio, but gave that up finally. At the breaking out of the Civil War he enlisted in the Eighteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry under Captain J. H. Elliott. He served through the entire war and was discharged in June, 1865. His first battle or skirmish was in the Fall of 1862. He participated in all the battles of his regiment, and was highly esteemed by his comrades in arms. While at Chantilly, Virginia, he was taken prisoner and held at Richmond, Belle Isle, Andersonville, Savannah and Millen for fourteen months, suffering untold hardships during that time. He was exchanged in 1864, and returned to his company to find that his position as Orderly Sergeant was filled, he being reported dead at time of capture. After this he was placed on detached duty and was present at the final

surrender, having charge of a body of men. After the war he came to Wheeling, but subsequently located in Wood County, West Virginia, where he embarked in the mercantile business. In 1867, he came to Clarksburg, opened up the business he is now carrying on, but later went to Somerset County, Maryland, where in connection with the marble business he carried on farming. In 1874 he returned to Clarksburg, and here he has been actively engaged in business ever since. In politics he is a Democrat, but is an independent voter. He has been a member of the City Council of Clarksburg, and has shown his appreciation of secret organizations by becoming a Mason, a Knight of Pythias, and other kindred societies. Of the former he is a member of Herman Lodge No. 6, has held all the stations in the same and has represented his lodge in the Grand Lodge. He is a member of Adoniram Chapter No. 11. Of the Knights of Pythias he is a member of Clarksburg Lodge No. 39, has held the different offices of the lodge and is a member of the Uniform Rank, Knights of Pythias, in which he has also held official positions. In 1894 he was Grand Chancellor of the Domain of West Virginia. He has always taken an active interest in lodge work, and has been a Knight of Pythias more than twenty years. He is also a member of the Red Men, Chickasaw Lodge No. 36, of Clarksburg, and is holding the office of Sachem at the present time. He is a member of Custer Post No. 8, Grand Army of the Republic at Clarksburg. Mr. Lang was married February 15, 1877, in Maryland, to Miss S. Virginia Smith, a native of that State, and the daughter of William T. and H. M. Smith, the father being a prominent merchant and farmer of Oriole, Maryland. Three living children have blessed this union: Albert, Nellie and William. One child, Katie, died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Lang attend Goff's Chapel and are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is one of the officers.

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## S. B. DAVIS.

Pre-eminence is a goal most men strive to attain. No matter in what field, whether it be literature, art, science or commerce, the ambition of the true man will push him to such endeavor that his success shall stand out distinctly. As editor of the Clarksburg News, S. B. Davis has attained distinction and the sheet which he offers to the public is ably edited, newsy,

bright and up with the times. It is the leading Democratic organ in this section of the State, and was established soon after the close of the Civil War by Colonel William Cooper, and after passing through several hands came under the management of S. B. Davis in 1894. He was born in Doddridge County, West Virginia, May 11, 1870, to H. B. Davis, who is a resident of Salem, this county, and one of the leading business men of that place, and a large property-owner. He was born in Doddridge County also, a son of L. H. Davis, who was among the early pioneers of that county, from New Jersey. The common schools of Salem afforded S. B. Davis his early education, which he afterward completed in Alfred University of New York State, from which he graduated in the class of 1890. He also attended the Columbian University of Washington, D. C., and early became a teacher in Salem College, and in Broaddus College, Clarksburg. He finally secured a position as clerk to the Committee on Private Land Claims, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., for the Fifty-third Congress, and for some time was the private secretary to Hon. John O. Pendleton, M. C., First West Virginia District. He finally came to Clarksburg and bought the News, in 1894, of which he has since been editor and general manager. He is a Knight Templar in the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, belongs to the Knights of Pythias, and has been secretary of the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor of West Virginia, and politically he is a Democrat and an active one, although a young man.

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## HON. JOHN A. HOWARD.

Hon. John A. Howard, one of the strongest and most prominent lawyers of West Virginia, was born at Steubenville, Ohio, May 27, 1857. Three years later he removed with his parents to Ohio County, West Virginia, where he spent his boyhood and received his early education. When quite a young man he was appointed to a clerkship in the office of the Secretary of State at Wheeling, then the Capital city, and improved this opportunity to further expand and perfect his education and prepare himself for one of the learned professions.

The following year he accepted the position of Private Secretary to the Governor, in order to become more thoroughly acquainted with the leading

men of his State, and to pursue his study of the law. Some years later he entered the University of Virginia, where he completed his legal education with masterly thoroughness.

In 1886, he was admitted to the bar, after having passed an examination before the Supreme Court of Appeals; and returning to Wheeling, West Virginia, entered upon the practice of his chosen profession. His preparation for the law had been long, painstaking and elaborate, and the wisdom of it was almost immediately recognized. Within the year he was elected Prosecuting Attorney for the County of Ohio. Here his knowledge of the law, his keen legal acumen, and his unusual powers as an advocate, attracted the attention of the older practitioners, and soon won him a substantial practice among the business concerns of this city.

He was again elected to the same office in 1892; his recognized ability and its resulting success to the county in its often extremely intricate legal controversies brought to his support the substantial citizens of the Commonwealth, irrespective of party. In 1895, he was chosen as a candidate for Congress by the Democracy of the First District of West Virginia. The ovation accorded to him by the delegates to the convention has seldom been equaled in the political history of the State. His canvass was characteristic of his legal methods, logical, fearless and thorough. The great landslide against the party resulted in his defeat at the polls.

Mr. Howard is essentially a lawyer; his mind is analytic and legal, his methods are ever those adapted to the law, and with him all things bend and are subservient to the requirements of his profession. That he is an advocate of ability and a counselor of rare good sense and discretion are facts best proven by his large and profitable clientage.

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## HON. M. G. HOLMES.

Mr. M. G. Holmes, ex-Sheriff of Harrison County, West Virginia, is a prominent citizen of the same, and one whose constancy to the business in hand, and whose progressive spirit have done much to forward the interests of this section. He is well and favorably known all over the county, few men more so, and the position occupied by him as one of the influential and representative men of the same, has been gained by personal worth and



unquestioned integrity. Mr. Holmes is descended from English stock, his ancestors coming to America at an early day, and much of his push and energy may be traced to that origin no doubt. He is a product of Preston County, West Virginia, born November 28, 1838, and the son of Nathan and Sedina (Holt) Holmes. His parental grandfather, John Holmes, was the son of English parents, who came to find homes in "The land of the free and the home of the brave." Nathan Holmes was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, but at an early day left that State, and came to West Virginia, settling in Preston County. Here his death occurred in 1854, after a long and successful career as a tiller of the soil. In politics he was a staunch Whig. His wife died in 1884, at West Union, Doddridge County. She was a native of Pennsylvania, as was also her father, Jonathan Holt, who also died in that State. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes had born to their union these children: Susan (deceased); John H., who is a farmer in Harrison County, and who was a soldier in the Civil War; Alfred C., who is a farmer of Doddridge County, and a prominent man of the same, having held the office of Clerk of the same besides other positions of trust; he also served in the Civil War; James L. was a missionary of the Baptist Church. He was sent to China, where he made his headquarters at Che Foo, and was killed in that country during a rebellion. He was a married man. M. G., our subject; Samuel A., who is living in Illinois, where he is a successful physician. He was in the late war also. Calvin A., another soldier of the Civil War, is now a resident of Fairmont; and Harriet, wife of a Mr. Pugh, died in Chicago. These children were all reared in Preston County, and there our subject received his primary education, first in the common schools, and later in the Academy at Smithfield, Pennsylvania. After finishing his education he became a teacher, but later went to China, and made his home at Che Foo and Shang-Hai, where he spent about five years in each place. He first went there as a clerk, but subsequently embarked in merchandising and in the banking business at Che Foo, where he established the branch of the Comptoir D'Escompte De Paris Bank. For three years he was thus engaged. In 1859, he returned to America, but in 1864 again crossed the seas to China, but only remained there a short time until he again returned to his native country. Here he married a Miss Elizabeth D. McCleary, a daughter of William McCleary, who was born in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, in 1813, and who is now a resident of Clarksburg, West Virginia. After his marriage, in 1866, Mr. Holmes returned to China, and was appointed counsel to Che Foo, in 1871, by President Grant. That position he held until 1873, when he returned to

Clarksburg, West Virginia. Later he was elected to the position of Sheriff of Harrison County, and so well were his services appreciated that he was elected to the Legislature in 1886. Mr. Holmes has also held the position of Mayor of Clarksburg, and is a good example of the public servant, for he is faithful to every duty, is accurate, painstaking and honorable, and is also genial and accommodating. He has also held many other prominent positions. He has always been a staunch Republican in his political views, and he has at all times given his support to the man and measures of that party, who have in turn shown their appreciation of his services by supporting him. He is at present chairman of the County Republican Committee. Mr. Holmes and wife are the parents of three interesting children: Minnie; Howard W., who is in the shoe business with his father; and Edna Davis, who is the wife of H. Davis of Clarksburg, and who is the mother of two children—twins—Catherine and Ewing. Mr. Holmes is a stockholder in the Traders' Bank and is also a stockholder in the Traders' Company.

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## THE MERCHANTS' NATIONAL BANK OF WEST VIRGINIA.

This is one of the largest banking institutions of the State, and the men connected with it are among the foremost business men of Clarksburg. It was established in 1865, and its resources now amount to \$369,586.90, the capital stock reaching the \$100,000 figure. The business of the bank was conducted at two places up to 1895, when they moved into the completed new bank building at the corner of Main and Third Streets, opposite the County Court House. It is a fine two-story, pressed brick building, the lower portion being of fine red sandstone, and is commodious and well arranged with all necessary safes and appliances for the protection of their property. The State cannot boast of a better or sounder banking institution and the names of its board of directors would alone be sufficient to secure it success. They are R. T. Lowndes, T. S. Spates, David Davidson, Lloyd Lowndes, Thomas W. Harrison, A. C. Moore and A. J. Lodge. The officers are: R. T. Lowndes, president; Thomas W. Harrison, vice-president; Luther Haymond, cashier; Lee Haymond, assistant cashier, and R. S. Harrison,

second assistant cashier. Careful attention is given to all business entrusted to the bank, collections receive strict personal attention and prompt remittances, in fact a general banking business is successfully carried on, on an extensive scale. This bank is the successor of a branch of the Merchants' and Mechanics' Bank of Wheeling, established in 1860, and during this long term of years it has preserved its integrity and under all circumstances has jealously guarded the rights of its depositors and stockholders; maintaining a standard of honorable and fair dealing in nowise inferior to that of sister organizations. This bank commends itself to all thinking people because it is soundly established and its terms are always as liberal as is consistent with conservative banking.

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## COLONEL FLOYD NEELY.

The original of this notice finds an appropriate place in the history of those men whose ability and good sense in the management of complicated affairs, have contributed so much to the development of Doddridge County, West Virginia. He is a native of this State, born in Harrison County, April 22, 1826, and comes of an old and prominent family of the same, his father and grandfather Neely having been born in Virginia. The latter, John Neely, was of Irish parentage and he served in the Revolutionary War. His son, Matthew Neely, father of the subject, was a commissioned officer in the War of 1812. At an early date he moved to Doddridge County, where he served as Deputy Sheriff for some time, but his principal occupation in life was farming. For many years he served as Justice of the Peace, both in Harrison and Doddridge Counties, and he served on the first Federal Grand Jury, of Harrison County. Although one of the best-posted men in this part of the country and a man highly esteemed by all, he never aspired to office. He was a prominent Mason and was active in his support of all worthy enterprises. His six brothers and sisters were named as follows: Thomas, George, Joseph, John, Alexander, Ephraim, Clarissa and Mary. Matthew married Miss Maria Newland, of Virginia, a daughter of Elijah Newland, who was of Scotch origin. Mr. Newland was a mechanic by trade. Mrs. Neely died in the year 1848, and Mr. Neely in 1856. They were

classed among the best citizens of the county. All their large family, eleven children, grew to mature years. They were named in order of birth as follows: William R., a contractor on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, died in 1855; Julian, married and resides in this county; Floyd (subject); Mary, married and resides in Clarksburg; Alfred, practicing medicine in this county; George, resides in Texas; Edmond went West, and died; John E., a railroad contractor at Chattanooga, Tennessee; Margaret, married Thomas McKinley, and moved to Missouri, where she died; Joseph, now in Kentucky; Emily married Thomas Gee, now in Texas; and Harriet, married, and now living near Morganville. The boyhood days of our subject were divided between assisting on the farm and in attending private school. When twenty-two or three he left home and came to West Union, where he followed merchandising for four or five years. After this he served as Deputy Sheriff until 1852, when he was elected Sheriff and served one term. Again he returned to merchandising, continued this two years, after which he built the first depot and was the first agent of the road at this place. In 1860, he was again elected Sheriff and served until the new State was formed in 1863, when he was again elected Sheriff, serving until January, 1867. Soon after this he erected a saw mill and embarked in the lumber business, which he continued until 1869, at which date he was elected to the Legislature, that being the first year of the reconstruction and only twelve Democrats were in the Legislature. After returning home he was again elected Sheriff, and served until the adoption of the new Constitution of West Virginia, after which he was re-elected, closing his term in 1877. Since then he has been engaged in the lumber business, and of late years has given attention to farming. He owns several tracts of land, in all about 1,200 acres, and has filled many minor offices of trust in the county, being at the present time Mayor of the Town of West Union. At the present time he has almost retired from active business, but still is interested in a saw mill and in the real estate business. During the Civil War he was Colonel of the State Militia of Doddridge County, and was called on several times to suppress trouble in the county. Mr. Neely married his first wife, Jane Fitzwilliams, daughter of Peter Fitzwilliams, of Maryland, in 1842. By this union eight children were born, two of whom died in infancy. They were: Anna M.; Mariah, at home; Ada V., married J. T. Adair, connected with a bank at Parkersburg; Grace, married Dr. Clough, now at Denver, Colorado; Cora, married Clay Cook, now in Ohio, at Hocking Coal Mines; Julia, at home; and Clara, at home. The mother of these children, a devoted member of the Catholic Church, died in 1876. Mr. Neely's second marriage

occurred in 1885, Miss Nannie Smith becoming his wife. Her father, Rev. Thomas Smith, was born in Virginia, and was an Episcopal minister. He is now dead. Our subject's first vote was for Henry Clay, and he continued with that party until 1856, since which time he has been an ardent Democrat.

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## T. T. ELLIOTT.

This prominent citizen of Barbour County, West Virginia, is a member of one of the pioneer families of this region and was born here on the 9th of January, 1844. His youth and early manhood were spent on the home farm and his educational advantages were limited to the common subscription schools that were in vogue at that time. Like a dutiful son, he remained on the home farm and carried on the work which had been inaugurated by his father, until the death of the latter. He then fell heir to the home farm, a portion of which he yet owns. At the age of twenty-two years he began dealing in stock on his own account; raised, bought and sold large numbers of horses, cattle and sheep. In 1868, at the age of twenty-four years, Mr. Elliott was married to Miss Columbia Lynch, took his young bride to the old home farm and began devoting himself with renewed vigor to the duties of his calling. In 1864, he enlisted in the Confederate service, becoming a member of the Twentieth Virginia Cavalry, W. L. Jackson's Division, and remained in the service until the war closed, during which time he saw some hard service, and was in a number of important engagements. He was never captured and received a few very slight wounds. At the close of the war he returned home, resumed work where he had left off and entered more vigorously than ever in the stock business, continuing it with unabated energy until 1892. The old home farm comprised a choice tract of land, was one of the first to have been cleared and improved in this section, and was known as the Barker farm. On this farm the early pioneers built a stone fort as a protection against the Indians and settled close around it for safety and many a time they sought its shelter. Mr. Barker also built a small mill for the accommodation of the settlers and these are still remembered by the older inhabitants of this region. In 1886, Mr. Elliott laid out the Town of Belington on a portion of this farm, disposed of many lots and the town is now in a prosperous condition and has a population of 500. He has also disposed of 140 acres to the Tygart's Valley Coal and Oil Company, and yet

owns 240 acres of fine land. He once moved with his family to Fairmont for the purpose of educating his children, but after a time returned to his farm. In 1892, he moved to Philippi, having been elected to the office of Sheriff, and when his term expires, which will be in a short time, he expects to again return to his farm, which has become very valuable. Mr. Elliott is a son of William and Rebecca (Parsons) Elliott, and grandson of David Elliott, the latter a native of Loudoun County, Virginia. The Elliotts are of Scotch-Irish descent and at a very early day settled in the Old Dominion. Nearly all the male members of the family have been farmers and stockmen and William Elliott was the most extensive stockman in this county during his day. Although he took the interest of a good citizen in public affairs, he abhorred politics and would never fill an office. The maternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, Solomon Parsons, was a Virginian also, and a physician by profession. He served in the Legislature that separated West Virginia from the old State, and was a participant in the Mexican War. He was a pronounced Republican all his life and died about 1880, a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The mother of the subject of this sketch still survives and is now about eighty years of age. She is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church, as was her husband. The following children were born to their union: Melvina, wife of a Mr. Knox; Edgar, a resident of Kentucky; Solomon, who died at the age of twenty-eight years; Jane, widow of Isaac Poling; T. T.; and Henrietta, wife of H. C. Rosenberger. To the union of T. T. Elliott the following children have been born: Alice, wife of W. H. Stataker; Guy C.; Emma; Minnie; Nettie; Carl; Stella; William, and Mary P. living, and two children who died in infancy. All the members of this family are members of the Missionary Baptist Church with the exception of the youngest child. Mr. Elliott is a Knight Templar Mason and in his political views is a Democrat. Mrs. Elliott is a daughter of James Lynch, of Harrison County, West Virginia, a farmer and miner by occupation.

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### THOMAS M. HASKINS, M. D.

In the profession of medicine new remedies are constantly being discovered, steady progress is being made in surgery and new diseases are presenting themselves under varying forms of civilization, therefore it affords to the student in that science a never-ending source of investigation and experiment.



*J.  
W. M. Fassins*





In the noble army of workers in this great field may be found the name of Dr. Thomas M. Haskins, who is classed among the leading physicians of Wheeling, and of the State of West Virginia. He very probably has the largest practice of any physician within the State limits and fully merits his large practice, for he is painstaking, conscientious and faithful in the discharge of his onerous and important duties. He is a product of Wetzel County, West Virginia, where he was born August 19, 1859, to William H. and Anna J. (Brookover) Haskins, who were among the early pioneers of that county. The father, who died in 1894, was a member of a prominent old Virginia family, and from his father, Thomas Haskins, inherited Irish blood, and with it many of the most worthy traits of that people. William H. Haskins was one of the first to locate in Wetzel County, West Virginia, and there his widow still resides on the old homestead. The doctor is one of their three sons and the only one to take up a profession. While a mere boy he became a school teacher, and as a means to an end followed this occupation for a number of years, thereby acquiring sufficient means to make his way through the Fairmont Normal School. In 1881, he became superintendent of the free schools in Wetzel County, and while following this occupation took up the study of medicine with Dr. Owens. After a time he entered and graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Baltimore, Maryland, and after practicing his profession for two years in his native county, he graduated from the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York. Three years later he took a post-graduate course in New York City, after which three more years were spent in practice in Wetzel County. After a period of ten months spent in Davis, West Virginia, he found that field inadequate to one of his active, ambitious nature and broad knowledge, and he came to Wheeling and took up his abode at Benwood, where he soon built up a reputation that was by no means confined within the limits of the City of Wheeling, but extended throughout the State, Ohio and Pennsylvania. In 1891, the doctor bought the property at 3333 Eoff Street, Wheeling, with the idea of establishing a hospital there, and in 1894-5 he erected the finest hospital in the State. The building is a very handsome four-story structure, equipped with elevators, hot and cold water, etc., and is a great addition to the city. It is very conveniently arranged, has two separate operating rooms and the wards are airy, clean and light. Dr. Haskins has one of the handsomest residences in South Wheeling, located near the hospital for his convenience, and much of his time is devoted to the successful management of the fine institution which his enterprise and humane spirit led him

to erect. Although he is still young in years his name is a familiar household word throughout the city and surrounding country, and his success is due wholly to his own efforts, for little help was tendered him in his early struggles. Notwithstanding the fact that he has attained renown—a fact which would turn the heads of many men—he is modest and unassuming in manners and has quite an humble opinion of his own ability. He gives special attention to surgery and to treatment of diseases of the throat and nose and in the latter specialty has made several important discoveries and performed many skillful operations. He is a close student and keeps in constant touch with the progress made in this most important and humane occupation, a fact which his patients are not slow to recognize and take advantage of. The doctor was married to Miss Louise, daughter of F. Schenck, one of the leading citizens of Wheeling, and he and his estimable wife are attendants of the German Lutheran Church.

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## SUPLER & REED.

Every city has its indicator of traffic and public enterprise, and to the experienced traveler there is no more certain sign of the times than the busy livery stable. It is a pleasure to say that Clarksburg has a large and notable concern conducted by J. C. Supler and G. J. Reed. This firm, Supler & Reed, was established in 1892, by the above named parties, and is doing a general livery business. From twenty to thirty head of horses are kept and the accommodations found here are of the most convenient sort. They have a full line of carriages, cabs, single and double buggies, and all kinds of turn-outs suitable to the trade of a city like Clarksburg and the country surrounding it. This is one of the best equipped stables in the State and Messrs. Supler & Reed are doing a thriving business.

J. B. Supler was born in Greene County, Pennsylvania, August 20, 1857, and although young in years is a most capable man in his calling. His father, William Supler, was born in Greene County, Pennsylvania, and died there in 1878. Farming was his chief occupation in life. In politics he was a staunch advocate of Democratic principles. He married Miss Ann Gerry, a native of Greene County, Pennsylvania, and to them were born five children: Jane, Nancy, J. B., Maggie and Elizabeth. Maggie is the wife of James McDermitt, a lumberman of Lumberport, West Virginia. Elizabeth married

a Mr. Stout and Nancy a Mr. Durban, of Pennsylvania. Our subject inherits sturdy German blood on the paternal side of the house, his grandparents having been born in that country. Mr. Supler was reared in Pennsylvania, attended the common schools, and in about 1873 started out for himself. He first engaged in farming and continued that up to 1875, when he came to Bridgeport, and embarked in the hotel business, managing the Sandusky House, and also the Supler House for about seven years. In 1882, he came to Clarksburg and became a partner of G. J. Reed in the livery business. Politically he is a Democrat, and socially an Odd Fellow, a member of Lodge No. 76, ————— West Virginia, and a Knight of Pythias, at Bridgeport, of which he is Junior Warden. Mr. Supler was married in Greene County, Pennsylvania, to Miss Anna McAfee, a native of Greene County, and daughter of Joseph and Anna McAfee. Three children have been given them: William, John and Charles. Mr. Supler resides in Clarksburg, where he owns a comfortable residence. Since his majority he has been interested in politics and has been a member of the county convention, and the county executive committee. In a business way he has made a success and what is better, has won the respect and good will of all.

G. J. Reed is a brother of Lloyd Reed (see sketch), and in spite of his youth has built up a large and lucrative business upon strict business principles. He is a native son of this county, born in 1865, and is interested in its progress and advancement. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias of Clarksburg and is a member of the Uniformed Rank.

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## THOMAS G. BRADY.

More furniture by far is sold in the United States than in any other country upon earth. This is because the masses of the people can afford to have homes furnished comfortably, if not luxuriously, and they do so furnish them. Clarksburg, like most other cities has its manufacturers of furniture and dealers in it, very prominent among which is the Clarksburg Furniture Company, of which Thomas G. Brady is the efficient president. This company was chartered November 20, 1893, with a capital stock of \$25,000, and officers were elected as follows: Thomas G. Brady, president; W. W. Howard, vice-president; James F. Howard, secretary, and E. L. Staley,

treasurer. Business was at once begun and in the short time that the establishment has been running, a large and paying patronage has been built up, amounting to at least \$20,000 annually. The stock carried is very large and includes parlor, library, bedroom, and dining-room furniture, likewise office desks, chairs, etc. Thomas G. Brady was born in Washington, Washington County, Pennsylvania, March 25, 1859, to Andrew and Nancy (Arnold) Brady. The paternal ancestors came from Scotland to America in 1712 and settled in Canada, where the lineal ancestor, Moses Brady, reared a large family. His second son, Andrew, was the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, and with his father he eventually came to the United States and for a time resided in Erie County, New York, but later took up their residence in Erie County, Pennsylvania. Here Moses Brady passed from life and from this section his son Andrew enlisted in the Colonial army during the Revolution. His brother, Samuel Brady, was the noted Indian fighter. Andrew Brady married while in Canada, and there his son Freeman was born. The latter accompanied his parents to the United States and was married in Washington County, Pennsylvania, to Miss Molly Means, a daughter of Benjamin Means, and to them seven sons and two daughters were born; Sophia; John and Andrew (twins), the former of whom is living in Washington County, Pennsylvania, and the latter met his death while assisting in the erection of the Washington and Jefferson College, at Washington, Pennsylvania; Freeman, who died in 1890, was a lawyer, was also a telegraph operator and served in this capacity during the war as aide to General McClellan; David was one of the first volunteers from Pennsylvania during the war and rose to the rank of Lieutenant in the Union army; Samuel is living in Washington, Pennsylvania; James was the first Democratic Postmaster of Washington, Pennsylvania, after the war, receiving his appointment from President Cleveland; Benjamin was killed in Washington, Pennsylvania, March 1, 1864, and Martha (who was next younger than Andrew) died in 1832. The father of this family died in 1875 at the age of ninety-one years. He had been a soldier in the War of 1812 and also took part in the early Indian troubles of Western Pennsylvania, and at one time was captured by the enemy, but was exchanged. He was Postmaster of Washington, Pennsylvania, under President Buchanan. His wife died in 1872, aged seventy-eight years. Their son Andrew was born in Washington, Pennsylvania, November 27, 1822, and in the schools of his native town he obtained a practical education. He became a contractor and builder, and a most excellent one, and built almost all the public buildings in that county, and was killed as

above stated in 1874. Politically, he was a Democrat, and for some years was Mayor of Washington. He was a capable financier and left a good property at the time of his death. He was married in Washington, Pennsylvania, to Nancy, the daughter of John and Nancy (Neal) Arnold, the latter being a sister of Matthew Neal, of Louisville, Kentucky. In early times the Arnolds came from County Antrim, Ireland, and in 1832 located in Washington County, Pennsylvania. John Arnold was a linen-weaver in his native land, but after coming to this country became a farmer. He died in 1873, and his wife in 1872, after they had reared a family of seven children: Nancy, John, Margaret; the names of the rest are unknown. John was an engineer on the Southern Pacific Railroad, and was killed at Shreveport, Louisiana. To Andrew and Nancy Brady the following children were born: John, who is a conductor on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, with headquarters at Washington, Pennsylvania; Isabel is the wife of F. S. Ideson and lives in Wisconsin; Andrew is the general manager of the Cornwall Iron Works, of Cornwall, Pennsylvania; Thomas G. Freeman, who is a merchant of Cornwall, Pennsylvania; Margaret is the wife of J. R. Knight, of Palmer, West Virginia; Nannie is the wife of Harry Young, of Washington, Pennsylvania; Hannah is the wife of Charles Trude, of Washington, Pennsylvania, and two children died in infancy. Nearly all the members of the family have been Presbyterians. The early life of Thomas G. Brady was spent in his native town, where he secured a good education in the public schools. After the death of his father he worked for four years in the hardware establishment of R. S. Stream, after which he became a traveling salesman for a Pittsburgh house and still later worked in the same capacity for a Wheeling, West Virginia, house. He continued to follow this calling up to 1882, when he located in Buckhannon, West Virginia, and established the Upshur Handle Company, and in 1885 was appointed Postmaster of the place by President Cleveland. In 1883, he was appointed overseer of the clearing of the Buckhannon River, by Robert T. Lincoln, then Secretary of War. In 1889, he again became a commercial traveler, and was with Ott Bros., of Wheeling, up to July, 1894, when he turned his attention to the coal business, and during the strike of that year sold 500 carloads. He then brought before the people of Clarksburg the enterprise of building a railroad from that city to the Ohio River, and has the charter for the West Virginia Short Line Railroad, which he and T. M. Jackson are endeavoring to build. He has resided in Clarksburg since 1889, and has already become well and favorably known, for his enterprise, push and public spirit. He is a Democrat politically, and socially belongs to the

Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, and the Virginia Commercial Travelers' Association. He was married in Clarksburg in 1884 to Miss Bessie S., daughter of Edwin L. and Mary A. Staley, the former of whom was a tanner by trade, and died in 1894. He left two sons: Nathan G. and E. L., who are connected with the Clarksburg Furniture Company. Edwin L. Staley was a son of John Staley and grandson of Jacob Staley, who was a pioneer of Tyler County, Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Brady have two children: J. Condon and T. McGraw, and are attendants of the Presbyterian Church.

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## J. A. HOSTETTER.

This gentleman is a member of the well-known lumbering firm of S. Hinkle & Co., who not only deal in this most necessary product, but in their extensive saw mill also manufacture it. Samuel Hinkle is the senior member of the firm and J. A. Hostetter the junior member. Mr. Hostetter has been a prominent business man of Rowlesburgh for the past fourteen years, although he was born in Mechanicsburg, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, July 19, 1857. His father, John S. Hostetter, was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, while his father, Christian Hostetter, one of the four brothers from whom all the Hostetters in the United States are descended, was a German by birth, and was one of the early settlers of Franklin County. John S. Hostetter was married in Cumberland County to Miss Harriet Anna Brown, a native of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, where she was reared and educated, and a daughter of John Brown, a prosperous farmer. After his marriage, Mr. Hostetter was engaged in farming in Cumberland County for some time, then embarked in the furniture business. After his removal to Mechanicsburg, he was very successfully engaged in teaching for some years. He was there called from life in 1861, having long been an earnest member and an active worker in the Church of God. His widow, who survives him, is also an active worker in the Church of God, and resides in Mechanicsburg. Their children were named as follows: Anna M., died at about the age of twenty-four years; Emma Rebecca is the wife of John K. Bowman, a merchant of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Laura S., is the wife of F. R. Caldor, a merchant of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; and J. A., who grew to manhood, and was educated in the Mechanicsburg High Schools. After



*J. A. Hostetter,*





reaching manhood he entered the employ of Eberly, Hinkle & Co., as bookkeeper, the senior member of which firm was his uncle, arrived in Rowlesburgh, in 1881, and served in this capacity and as clerk for several years. About 1885 he purchased an interest in the business and since that time the firm has manufactured from 3,000,000 to 6,000,000 feet of lumber annually, the most of which they ship to eastern cities, and considerable to the Cumberland Valley, Pennsylvania. S. Hinkle & Co. have two offices, one located at Weston, West Virginia, on the West Virginia & Pittsburgh Railroad, where Mr. Hinkle now resides, and one located at Rowlesburgh, West Virginia, on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, where Mr. Hostetter now resides. They carry a heavy stock of lumber along the line of the West Virginia & Pittsburgh Railroad as well as at Rowlesburgh, West Virginia.

At the present time they have on hand nearly 5,000,000 feet of poplar, ash and oak lumber, also some walnut, cherry and white pine. The business has proven a very profitable and congenial one to Mr. Hostetter, and has been of incalculable benefit to the commercial prosperity of the section. On the 14th of February, 1884, Mr. Hostetter was married in Rowlesburgh, to Miss Margaret M. Knotts, a daughter of James S. Knotts, one of the Preston County pioneers. Mrs. Hostetter was reared and received a good education in the schools of Rowlesburgh, and her union with Mr. Hostetter has resulted in the birth of five children: Madeline M.; Samuel E., Margaret M., John A., Jr., and Harry B. Mr. Hostetter was reared in a Republican cradle, and has always voted that ticket since he attained his majority, his first Presidential vote being cast for James A. Garfield and Chester A. Arthur. He has been a valuable addition to the business circles of Rowlesburgh, is a man of excellent business capacity, of the strictest integrity, and is in every way worthy the confidence reposed in him.

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## J. N. B. CRIM.

This most prominent and enterprising citizen of Philippi, West Virginia, was born in Rockingham County, Virginia, July 22, 1835, and in 1847 accompanied his parents to Barbour County, West Virginia, and on a farm about six miles from Philippi he remained about two years, then came to Philippi and made his home with an uncle, who was engaged in merchan-

dising here, and to attend school. During vacations he made himself useful about the store and after a time he was promoted to the position of a clerk, and so continued until he had attained his majority. He had saved his earnings up to this time and with this small capital he started out in life for himself. In 1856 or 1857, he embarked in the mercantile business with a partner at this place, but in 1860 purchased his partner's interest, and the following year moved his stock of goods to Elk City, where he continued business up to 1894, when he closed out. During these years he was at different times connected with various enterprises at Philippi and also owned stores at various points throughout the county, and perhaps has bought and sold more goods than any other man in this section. At an early day he began speculating in notes and other securities, bought, traded and sold large tracts of land, and during 1893 his sales of real estate amounted to over \$25,000, but he still owns a large amount of real estate. His land has afforded pasturage for large droves of stock and all the above mentioned occupations are still carried on by him with the exception of merchandising. In 1886, he helped originate and organize the Tygart's Valley Bank, with a paid-up capital of \$50,000, and which now has a surplus of \$12,000. He is one of its heaviest stockholders and was made its president at the first organization, a position he still holds. Besides his large landed and other interests he is the owner of some of the best and most valuable property in Philippi. He has always supported the men and measures of the Democratic party, and while active politically his business interests have occupied his time to the exclusion of all other things, with the exception of a few minor positions and the time he was a member of the convention that framed the Constitution for the State. He was connected with the log and lumber booms of the Tygart's River and at this time is the president of the Tygart's Valley Mineral and Oil Company. He has long been one of the most enterprising men of the county and his residence in Philippi has been of incalculable benefit to the place. He was married to Miss Almyra J., daughter of John N. Hall, a prominent man of this county, who served in the capacity of Judge of the County Court, held other honorable positions, and is now in fair health at the age of eighty-two years. To Mr. and Mrs. Crim two children have been given: Cora May, wife of Melville Pict, who is now Prosecuting Attorney of the county, and E. H., who is a graduate of the State University, and is now a prosperous merchant of Philippi. Mrs. Crim died February 1, 1890, a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. Crim is also a worthy member. He is a son of Michael and Catherine (Strickler)

Crim, native Virginians. The paternal grandfather was a Pennsylvanian of German descent, but early became a resident of Virginia, where he built and owned a large mill, and was engaged in farming. Michael Crim was a farmer and speculator. The maternal grandfather, Joseph Strickler, was a prominent farmer of Page County, Virginia, and served as Sheriff and Internal Revenue Collector for many years. He was ever an active worker for the Democratic party, as was also Michael Crim, who was assassinated in 1861. The children born to himself and wife were five in number: J. N. B.; A. T., who owns and resides on the old homestead; Mary E., became the wife of Samuel S. Martina, and died in 1865, leaving a son—William M.—who lives in Colorado; Ella became the wife of Joseph L. Johnson, who is a merchant and Postmaster of Meadville, this county; and Emma, who is the wife of E. S. Daniels, an attorney-at-law and City Attorney of Chattanooga, Tenn. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Crim married Colonel Johnson. She is now a widow eighty-two years old, and a consistent member of the Primitive Baptist Church.

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## JUDGE GIDEON D. CAMDON--DECEASED.

The judges of the various courts established in Harrison County, West Virginia, have always been noted for their character and ability, and one of the most popular of the many worthy men elevated to the bench in this county, was Judge Gideon D. Camdon. Mr. Camdon comes of English stock and is a descendant of one of the first families of Virginia. He was born in August, 1804, and died, after a long and useful life, April 22, 1891. He was the son of Henry and Mary (Sprigg) Camdon, natives of Virginia. The father was a Methodist Episcopal minister of Virginia, and his circuit extended over a wide stretch of country. Judge Camdon's early life was passed in Lewis County, West Virginia, where he married and reared the following children: Eliza; Martha M., now Mrs. Summers; Gideon D.; John A., and Dora, now Mrs. Ramsburg. The two now living are Mrs. Ramsburg and Mrs. Summers. The Judge came to Clarksburg in 1834, studied law and at an early date became associated with Judge Allen. He became one of the most prominent men of the county and held many of the most important offices of the same. In 1850, he was elected to the State Legislature of Vir-

ginia, afterward Judge of the Circuit Court, and came within one vote of being elected United States Senator. At one time he was a Whig in politics, but subsequently became identified with the Democratic party, with which he remained until his death. He became a large land owner and a wealthy citizen.

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## B. S. REYNOLDS.

The position occupied by Benjamin S. Reynolds as one of the progressive farmers and influential citizens of Harrison County, West Virginia, has been gained by personal worth and unquestioned integrity. He is well and favorably known all over the county, for he was born here April 21, 1821, and has here spent all his days. Farming and stock-raising have been the sources of his success in life and for the most part all his property has been accumulated by his own efforts, his father giving him about 200 acres when he first started out to fight life's battles for himself. The father, Thomas P. Reynolds, was also a native of Harrison County, his birth occurring April 11, 1798, and in this county he was married to Miss Margaret Thompson, who was born in this country about 1814. After marriage this young couple settled on Limestone Creek, where they became the owners of a large farm and reared their children, our subject and a daughter, Mary Jane, who married Isaac Lynch and who died when twenty years of age. On this farm, Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds died in 1854 and 1881 respectively. For many years both were members in good standing in the Presbyterian Church. John Reynolds, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Culpeper County, Virginia, and resided there until 1785, when he removed with his family to Harrison County, Virginia, bringing the first covered wagon into that section. When he reached Elk River, near Clarksburg, he stalled. Judge John G. Jackson was holding court at the time, and on learning his situation, adjourned court and all went to Mr. Reynold's assistance. Mr. Reynolds located on West Fork of the Monongahela River, about five miles north of Clarksburg, West Virginia, and was one of the pioneers of the county, experiencing all the hardships and privations of those settling in a new region. He made a yearly trip to Winchester, Virginia, with a bull, on which he would pack 500 pounds of salt, for which he would pay in ginseng and deer skins. His father, Cornelius Reynolds, was of Irish origin, and possibly a native of the Emerald Isle, but

spent the most of his years in Culpeper County, Virginia, and there died. The maternal grandparents of Thomas P. Reynolds, Thomas Phillips and his wife, Mary, were natives of Wales, and emigrated to America about 1870, and five years later to West Virginia. They had two children, both daughters: One was married to John Reynolds, the grandfather of our subject, and the other to Robert Bartlett. The father gave each daughter 400 acres of land, and retained for himself 200 acres, which he afterward gave to his namesake, Thomas P. Reynolds. Mr. Phillips was a man of remarkable self-control, and was never known to be angry. Our subject's maternal grandparents, James and Jane (McCaulley) Thompson, were natives of County Down, Ireland, where they were reared and married. Early in the century they embarked from Belfast, Ireland, and after a stormy voyage of fifteen weeks in a sailing vessel, reached Baltimore. They had been urged to come to this country by glowing descriptions from one of Mrs. Thompson's brothers, and were sorely disappointed to find him in a log cabin with a dirt floor, surrounded by wild animals and still wilder red men. Six or seven families were banded together in a fort for mutual protection. The men worked on their farms during the day, and at night returned to the fort. They were once attacked by Indians, but repulsed them. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson located in Harrison County, at the head of Limestone Creek, where they reared a large family, and where, in connection with farming, Mr. Thompson kept hotel for many years. Three sons, Hugh, Samuel and John, helped kill the last buffalo seen in this State. Many descendants of the family now reside in Harrison County.

Our subject received his scholastic training under the direction of his father, who was a fine scholar for his day. He studied the classics and became a fair Latin scholar, devoting much of his spare moments to instructive reading and to general information. He is the owner of one of the choicest libraries in the county, especially among the country people. In the year 1849, September 5, he was married to Miss Lucy Ann Pell, who was born in Preston County, Virginia, in 1826, and who was a daughter of Hezekiah Pell. The latter was also born in Preston County, where he was an influential citizen, holding many prominent positions, and where he tilled the soil until his death. His father was a New Yorker, who came to Preston County, West Virginia, at an early date, and his mother was a daughter of General Thomas Fairfax, of Virginia, who was a brother of Lord Fairfax. General Fairfax was an officer in the War of 1812. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds are the parents of six children: Mary Rebecca, wife of Albert Shinn; Vir-

ginia; Thomas P.; Nancy Jane, wife of W. L. Corder; Charles E., and Margaret. All these children received their early education in the district schools but later most of them attended school at Salem, Fairmont, etc., and are as well educated as the average. Mr. Reynolds remained on the old farm, where he was born until about ten years ago, when he moved to his present home, adjoining the old farm. He has devoted his life to farming and stock-raising, as before mentioned, and has met with substantial results in the same, being at the present time the owner of about 700 acres of land worth \$20,000. He is an extensive cattle feeder and is possessed of an unlimited amount of energy and perseverance even yet, although past three score years and ten, the allotted age of man. During the Civil War he was offered a Captain's commission in the Confederate army, but would not accept it as he was a Union man. Mr. Reynolds held the office of Justice of the Peace for twenty-five years, or until a few years ago. He is an Odd Fellow, a member of Adelpi Lodge No. 8, at Clarksburg, and in his religious views is a Presbyterian. Politically, he was formerly a Whig, but since the war he has affiliated with the Democratic party. Mrs. Reynolds, who was a lady of talent and amiability and a consistent member of the Baptist Church, died April 30, 1886, and was buried on the farm, in the same burial plot in which are buried one grandson, Clarence M. Shinn, son of A. R. and Mary R. Shinn, aged six years, and T. P. Reynolds and his wife Margaret.

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## DR. JOHN W. RAMSAY.

The profession of medicine is one that demands much self-denial and the exercise of repression and the sacrifice of the ordinary methods of advancing one's interests. Clarksburg is peculiarly fortunate in the personnel of its practitioners, among whom is Dr. John W. Ramsay. His attainments in his profession, and his devoted care of those who require his services, all have combined to give him enviable distinction among physicians and popularity with the public. He was born in New Geneva, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, May 16, 1832, and is of Scotch-Irish and French origin. In the Monongahela Academy he received a thorough education and later entered Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he was graduated in March, 1853. In 1861, during the Civil War, he entered the service

as Regimental Surgeon, and later became Chief Surgeon of Division, Medical Director, etc., etc.

He was captured and sent to Clarksburg a paroled prisoner, and as he was favorably impressed with the city, located there after the war. He soon had a large and lucrative practice, which increases as the years pass by. He is one of the leading surgeons in West Virginia, and has performed all of the most difficult surgical operations. The doctor combines with a rare knowledge of his profession pleasant and agreeable manners and a broad and conscientious charity. For years he has been a member of the American Medical Association, and was president of the West Virginia State Medical Society and president of the Harrison County Medical Association; also physician and surgeon for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, a member of the board of directors of the West Virginia Hospital for the Insane at Weston, and is a member of the West Virginia Historical Society. The doctor is one of the best judges of horseflesh in the State and has a stable of fine horses. He married Miss Virginia L. Hoffman, daughter of John H. and Louise Hoffman, of Morgantown, West Virginia, in May, 1858. Two living children are the fruit of this union: Lucy, the wife of Harvey Kohr, a well-known attorney of Washington, D. C., and Robert H., a graduate of the West Virginia University and now a student of Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Dr. Ramsay is well and favorably known to the medical profession of West Virginia, and to the people of Harrison and adjoining counties, and has the respect and confidence of all.

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## LLOYD REED.

Few of Clarksburg's business men can claim the distinction of having been born in the city, and among those who have been and who have had her spirit of progress instilled into their character is Lloyd Reed, vice-president of the Adamston Coal and Coke Company. He was born December 12, 1858, and is the son of James W. and Sarah E. (McKnight) Reed. The father was born in Clarksburg and eventually became a merchant of that place. His death occurred in 1872. His wife is still living and a resident of Clarksburg. Their family of children were named as follows: David J., died in 1882; Lloyd, our subject; Mary, now Mrs. Huggins, of Yamptown, Ohio; George,

in the livery business; Ida, and Thomas, who died young. Mr. and Mrs. Reed were members of the Presbyterian Church. Grandfather James Reed was a native Virginian and one of the early pioneers of Harrison County. He made his home in Clarksburg and there followed merchandising many years. He was a prominent man in the county and held a number of public offices. In the schools of Clarksburg our subject received a good education and in 1872 started out to make his own way in life. He followed clerking in the stores of his native town until 1885, and was then appointed Postmaster under Cleveland's administration, a position he held until 1890. In 1893, he became a member of the Adamston Coal and Coke Company, and is now vice-president of the same. He has shown his appreciation of secret organizations by becoming a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Herman Lodge No. 6, the Chapter No. 11, and has been Master of the lodge and a delegate to the Grand Lodge. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, and is a member of the Uniformed Rank of the latter order. He has represented the Knights of Pythias in the Grand Lodge and has held prominent positions in all societies to which he belongs. In politics he is a Democrat, is active in his support of that party, and has been secretary of the Democratic Executive Committee. He is a member of the Episcopal Church.

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## W. C. RUSSELL.

In this great age of beautiful and modern buildings the lumber manufacturing business is a most important one and under the management of such men as Mr. Russell, a most profitable one financially. The subject of this sketch was born at Washington, D. C., in 1856, the eldest child born to A. W. and Julia A. (Campbell) Russell, who were natives of Frederick, Maryland, and Washington, D. C., respectively. The paternal grandfather was a native of Maryland and his father held the rank of Captain during the Revolutionary War. The Russells are of Scotch-Irish descent and during the colonial history of America came to this country and settled in Maryland. The maternal grandfather, William H. Campbell, was born at Newburyport, Massachusetts, where his father was a large shipowner, having a fleet of about fifteen vessels sailing between this country and Europe. He was a



native of Bonnie Scotland and left the land of his birth in boyhood to seek his fortune in America. W. C. Russell's father went to Washington, D. C., in his youth, where he grew to manhood, married and engaged in the hardware business. Previous to this, however, he served in the United States navy and from 1842 to 1844, he was Captain's Clerk on the vessel *Saratoga* off the coast of Africa. During the Mexican War he served in the *Munster Rifles* of the distinguished company known as the *Texas Rangers*. From 1858 to 1861 he was clerk of the Committee on Naval Affairs in the United States Senate. He entered the navy as Paymaster February 6, 1861, was attached to the *Pocahontas* in Chesapeake Bay, and was subsequently transferred to the *Savannah*, on the Atlantic blockade, and was at the capture of Tybee Island. He was then ordered to the *Colorado* in the Mississippi River, which was previous to the capture of New Orleans. He was next transferred to the ironclad steamer *New Ironsides* in the South Atlantic Squadron, and received special thanks from Commodore Rowan in his official dispatches for "Great zeal and ability in command of the powder and shell division," during the numerous engagements in Charleston Harbor. Paymaster Russell was next attached to the *North Carolinian* in 1864 and 1865, the *Chattanooga* on special service in 1866, thence to the *Sacramento* on a special cruise, which was closed, owing to a wreck in the Bay of Bengal, in which he lost all his personal effects, but saved all Government books and money. From 1868 to 1870 he was employed in the Washington Navy Yard; purchasing office at Philadelphia from 1870 to 1873, and from 1874 to 1877, and was promoted to pay inspector in 1871. He was made pay director in February, 1877, and was also purchasing officer at Baltimore up to 1882, and from 1882 to 1886 was located in the City of Philadelphia. He retired from active life February 4, 1886, and now resides in the city of "brotherly love." His brother, John H. Russell, entered the navy as a Midshipman September 10, 1841, became Master in 1855, in the latter part of the same year Lieutenant, Lieutenant-Commander in 1862, Commander in 1867, Captain in 1874, Commodore in 1883 and Rear Admiral in 1886. After forty years of active service in the navy he retired in 1886. W. C. Russell, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the public schools of Washington and in the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia. In 1875, he left college to engage in the lumber business in Philadelphia; in 1881, removed to Elk County, Pennsylvania, following this business in Elk, Warren and McKean Counties until 1891, when he came to Elkins, and has here been located ever since. He was the projector of a railroad from Hendricks

to Ronceverte, to which \$55,000 was subscribed, but failing to obtain the necessary local and financial support the project was abandoned for a time, but it has since been partially carried out, and is known as the Dry Fork Railroad. Mr. Russell established a saw-mill near Alpina in Randolph County, the first mill erected in that section, and this mill he is still conducting. In 1892, he built a planing-mill for the manufacture of hardwood interior finish supplies, and this was the first mill of the kind put up in the place. The mill is well equipped with a dry kiln and the latest improved machinery, and furnished the materials for the interior finishing of Senator Davis, and Hon. R. C. Keren's residences at Elkins, also the railroad offices of the place. He employs skilled laborers in his mill and about one dozen hands are kept constantly at work in the Elkins mill. He has always been active politically, is a staunch Republican, and was a candidate for the Legislature in Tucker and Randolph Counties, a Democratic District, and reduced the Democratic majority about 450 votes, which speaks well for his popularity. He was united in marriage in 1885 with Miss Gertrude E. Long in Pennsylvania, and to them two children have been given: George Preston and Virginia Gertrude. Mr. Russell is a member of the military organization, the Loyal Legion of the United States.

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## CHARLES D. ELLIOTT.

One of the positive truths taught by modern science is that mental and physical qualities are hereditary in man, and this statement of fact is as old as Moses, who declared that the generations to come should feel the influence of the father's actions. The subject of this sketch is descended from a worthy ancestry, and owes his vigor of body and his strong mentality to his parents and his parents' parents. He has taken advantage of all opportunities that have presented themselves during his lifetime, and wisely turned his attention in the direction of that most important of callings, insurance against the fire fiend and also life insurance, for which branch of industry he seems eminently fitted. He was born in Clarion County, Pennsylvania, January 1, 1861, and while growing from childhood to youth and from youth to manhood he acquired a thorough education in the common schools and educa-

tional institutions of a higher order. In 1871 he accompanied his parents, Dr. Thomas I. and Viola (Newal) Ellicott to Taylor County, West Virginia. Both parents were Pennsylvanians by birth, and the former was a cousin of Hon. James G. Blaine. He practiced medicine for many years, met with marked success in this business and succeeded both professionally and financially. He has been retired from practice for some time and is living in Webster County, West Virginia. At the time the great Civil War came up he was a Union Democrat, an able campaigner and a strong and valuable worker for the party. His patriotic spirit led him to raise a company for the Union service; he was commissioned First Lieutenant, and served in this capacity until the close of the war. After he had passed through one political campaign in this State his political convictions underwent a change and he has since affiliated with the Republican party, and has advocated its principles as warmly as he once did those of Democracy. To himself and wife two children were given: Mary V., wife of John P. Hughes, of Wyoming, and Charles D., whose name heads this sketch. The latter went to Webster County, West Virginia, in 1885 and was there married the same year to Miss Mary E. Thompson, of Augusta County, Virginia, a daughter of Joseph A. Thompson of that State, an attorney-at-law and now a resident of Parsons, Tucker County, West Virginia. He also served in the Federal army during the war, and while in the service so injured his eyes that he has been compelled to retire from the practice of his profession. Three years after his marriage Mr. Elliott located in Sutton, West Virginia, and entered the employ of the Pardu-Curtin Lumber Company in the capacity of buyer, made all their purchases of lumber, lands, etc., and in all invested over \$1,000,000 for them. During President Harrison's administration he was made Deputy Revenue Collector of this district, and at the expiration of his term of service turned his attention to the insurance business and to the purchase of real estate, in the interests of which he traveled all over the State. During the campaign of 1892 he was Mr. Elkins' right-hand man and organized committees all over the State. He is president of the State Republican League, and helped greatly to build up the party in the State, and being an enthusiast in this work he expects to continue this work and make West Virginia one of the safe Republican States in the Union. He spent the winter of 1894-95 at Charleston, while the Legislature was in session, and while there worked for Mr. Elkins' election to the United States Senate, and was very successful in this. His extensive acquaintance in this State has made him a very competent lobbyist, and he did much valuable work for the

Republican party. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Elliott are as follows: Viola N. and Kate T. Socially Mr. Elliott is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is a man of unblemished reputation, and his fine intellect, energy and push have made him both popular and prominent.

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## CHARLES W. SEABRIGHT.

Among the North European population of which the American people are so largely composed few national bloods have furnished a more solid or forceful element than that of the German people. Prominent among those of foreign extraction who have allied their interests to those of the American people, and whom the adopted country has reason to feel proud of for their estimable qualities, is Charles W. Seabright, ex-Mayor of Wheeling, and one of the old and leading business men of that city. This worthy citizen was born in Brunswick, Germany, October 11, 1836, and for four years prior to coming to America was employed in the German mail service, in which his father was a contractor. In 1849, soon after the death of the father, Charles W. accompanied by his mother, a sister and a brother, came to this country, and settled in Wheeling, where he soon obtained employment with his step-brother, Louis, who had preceded the family to America, and who was engaged in the butcher business. Mr. Seabright remained but a few months with his brother, and in September, 1849, was employed by Thomas Hughes, merchant tailor, with whom he remained twenty-one years and five months, having attained the chief clerkship at the close of that time. On the 1st of February, 1871, with a small capital, he associated himself with Charles Pfafenbach and opened a merchant tailoring establishment on South Main Street under the title of Pfafenbach & Seabright. Nine months later he bought his partner out, and then embarked in the business with C. A. Schmulbach, with whom he remained in business until February, 1872. He then purchased Mr. Schmulbach's interest, and has since conducted the extensive business alone. This business amounts to \$60,000 annually, and employment is given to about forty people on an average. In 1880, Mr. Seabright was elected to the State Legislature by the Democratic party (with which he has ever been identified), and served a term of two years to the evident satisfaction of all parties. January, 1887, he was elected Mayor of Wheeling by



*Eng. by F. G. Harlan & Co. NY*

*C. W. Seabright*



a small majority over Captain B. B. Dovener. Two years later he was re-elected by a majority of 638, and at the expiration of the second term was re-elected and held the position up to 1893. He has also held other positions of honor and trust. He has always been interested in the progress and development of the city's interests, is identified with several manufacturing concerns and various other enterprises. Mr. Seabright is a member of the Lutheran Church, and of Wheeling Lodge No. 28, Order of Elks. He is the oldest Elk in the city and his son, Edward, is the youngest. He was married in 1861 to Miss Isabella O'Callahan, who was born at Sisterville, West Virginia, in 1839, and who died in 1877, the fruits of this union being: Robert, Mary, William and Edward. The first named died young; Mary and William passed away in 1891. Mr. Seabright's mother, who had made her home with him for many years, died in 1895, at the advanced age of eighty-five, being at that time one of the oldest German settlers or pioneers. Our subject and Edward are the only members of the family now living. A self-made man in every sense of the term, Mr. Seabright has made his way to the front in all that he has undertaken, and has won the regard and affection of all.

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## ANDREW JACKSON THOMAS.

The occupation which for many years occupied the attention of the subject of this sketch and in which he was more than ordinarily successful was that of farming—that most useful, honorable and healthful as well as independent of callings. Mr. Thomas comes of a worthy Scotch family, for in the land of "thistles and oatmeal" his paternal grandfather first saw the light and there he was also brought up. He finally immigrated to this country and took up his residence in Maryland, in which State he eventually passed from life. His son, Jacob, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Maryland, in which State he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Kendall, also a native Marylander. They became extensive and wealthy farmers of Berkeley County, and on this fine estate, which their industry had brought them, their earthly careers closed, the father dying in 1861 and the mother in 1865. Jacob Thomas was an old-line Whig in politics, and during the War of 1812 was a participant in that struggle. Andrew Jackson Thomas was born in Berkeley County, Virginia, in 1820, the second child of his parents, and was there reared, but unfortunately without

good educational advantages. His services were in great demand on the home farm, and although he was compelled to labor hard in his youth it did not lessen his liking for agricultural pursuits, and while thus growing up he laid the foundations of energy and honesty, which did much to enhance his financial prosperity in later years. When twenty-three years of age he started for the West, and after one year spent in the State of Missouri he returned to his old home and began tilling a rented farm. In 1861, he came to Martinsburg and engaged in the distilling business, and in addition to this was a very extensive farmer until recently, when advancing years caused him to retire from active business life, and he sold the most of his land. In 1890, he purchased his large and handsome home in Martinsburg, where he has since resided in the enjoyment of a comfortable competency. In 1863, he was united in marriage with Miss Nannie Seibert, a native of this county. Mr. Thomas has been active in the various public affairs of the county, and is now a director of the Cumberland Valley Railroad.

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## PARKISON CALLETT.

There are few men in business circles who show as much fitness for their avocation in that they are wide-awake, experienced, reliable and energetic as Parkison Callett, and there are none who have a more thorough knowledge of merchandising than he. Mr. Callett is the son of Thomas and Nancy (Pedro) Callett, both natives of Randolph County. The father was a minister in the Baptist Church and was also a farmer, as was also his father, Thomas Callett, Sr. The latter was born in Pendleton County, Virginia, and was of German origin. Late in life he moved to Randolph County. Thomas Callett, Jr., preached the gospel in this and adjoining counties for many years, married many couples, and died December 31, 1870. The mother died during the war. They were residing near Beverly, November 30, 1828, at the time of our subject's birth. The maternal grandfather, Henry Pedro, was born in Randolph County, where he followed farming all his life. Our subject grew up on the farm near town, received his education in that place, and when twenty-one years old opened a store at Beverly, where he was in business at the breaking out of the Civil War. In 1861, he enlisted in Company A, Clanahan's Battery, Imboden's Brigade, and was made First Lieutenant of the same. He was in the engagements in the Valley of



Virginia, and was in the Battle of Williamsport, Gettysburg, etc. At the close of the war he was at Lynchburg, where he surrendered. He was three times wounded and saw much hard work and fighting. Coming home he began work on his farm, and in 1866 married Miss Anzina Chenoith, a native of this county. Later he laid out much of his farm in town lots, on which a considerable portion of the City of Beverly now stands. He also owns a farm and mill at Alfina, Dry Fork District. In 1881, he opened a store at Alpena and carried on business there for twelve years, meeting with fair success. In 1894, he erected his present store in Beverly and has since been actively engaged in merchandising. The success already won by Mr. Callett has been well merited, and he enjoys an excellent reputation for business integrity and veracity. To his marriage were born these children: Zan F., editor of Valley News at Elkins; Mittie, wife of Arthur Bradley, of Elkins; Emma, wife of W. T. Woodyard; Thomas, at Alfina; Florence, died in youth, and Louie. Mr. Callett is a worthy member of the Presbyterian Church.

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## DR. L. W. TALBOTT.

Special adaptability to any particular calling in life is the one necessary adjunct to permanent success. No matter the vim and determination which characterizes a man's start in any undertaking, unless he is specially qualified for that position he will find to his sorrow that his lines have been falsely cast, and the quicker he draws back and takes up another calling the better it will be for him. Dr. L. W. Talbott has made no mistake in his calling, for he is one of the most successful physicians of the county. He is a native of this State, born in Barbour County, November 25, 1855, and his parents, William W. and Sarah (Simmons) Talbott, were natives of Barbour County also. The first member of this family to settle in this part of Virginia were our subject's great-grandfather, Richard, and his brother, Catteral, who left Maryland for this State at an early date. Richard was the father of ten sons and three daughters, only one of whom is now living, Mrs. Gall, wife of George Gall, of Barbour County. His son, Robert, grandfather of our subject, was born in the western country and here married. He became a farmer and had a large tract of land near the headwaters of Stuart River in Barbour County. This land is richly underlaid with coal. He married and became the father of nine sons and four daughters, ten of whom are now

living, all in this State with the exception of two who reside in Kansas. Our subject's ancestors on the father's side were of English descent, and his grandmother was a daughter of Lord Howe. She was married clandestinely to Colonel Woodford, an officer in the British army who fought the colonists for three years and then joined them against the British the remainder of the war. He subsequently located in Western Virginia, where his descendants now live. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Abraham Simmons, was a native of Barbour County, where his people were early settlers. Dr. L. W. Talbott supplemented a common-school education by a course in West Virginia College and in Jefferson College, Greene County, Pennsylvania. After this he taught school in the State for a year and a half, and then studied medicine with Dr. John W. Bosworth of Philippi. Following this he entered the medical department of Maryland University at Baltimore and was graduated from that institution in 1883. Immediately afterward he began practicing in Glade District, Barbour County, remained there two years, and on the 4th of August, 1884, went to New York City, where he took a post graduate course. Returning he resumed his practice in medicine and surgery. He is building a large commercial house ninety feet front by sixty-five feet deep in Elkins, and is a wide-awake, enterprising business man as well as successful physician. Dr. Talbott was married March 2, 1893, to Miss Mary E. Bosworth, daughter of Squire Bosworth, of an old pioneer family of this section. One son, Richard Bosworth Talbott, has been born to this union. In his social relations the Doctor is an Odd Fellow, a member at Philippi, and in politics is a staunch Democrat. His seven brothers, all prominent men, are named as follows: Salathiel, a commercial man of Missouri; Elam D., a lawyer at Beverly; Abram Ira, a member of the police force of Kansas City; Fitzhugh Lee, of Black Rock, Arkansas; William Floyd, a farmer of Barbour County; Waterman T., a student at the West Virginia University, studying law, and Robert Delard, at home.

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### C. P. HUDSON.

Eminently worthy of mention in this work is C. P. Hudson, who has devoted his life to farming, and now has a comfortable home and a fine estate in Doddridge County. He was born in Lewis County, West Virginia, June 21, 1837, to the union of Jacob and Elizabeth (Hardman) Hudson, natives

of Virginia. His paternal grandfather, Thomas Hudson, was of Irish origin, and served through the Revolutionary War. Afterward, he moved to Shenandoah County and followed farming the remainder of his days. At that time Indians were plentiful and the families lived near forts for protection. At one time Grandmother Hudson was captured by the savages and kept a prisoner almost a year, when she succeeded in making her escape. She had a sister and brother who were captured, the former remaining a captive with the Indians two years and the latter twenty years. For some time after being rescued the latter longed for his free life with his savage companions, but finally became reconciled, married and settled down. Our subject's maternal grandfather, John Hardman, was an early settler of Virginia, and underwent many hardships while making a home in the wilderness. Indians bothered him a great deal, and once he was severely wounded by them. He was a minister of the Protestant Methodist persuasion. Jacob Hudson, the father of our subject, was reared amid the wilds of pioneer life in Virginia, his birth occurring there December 6, 1811. After growing up he married Miss Elizabeth Hardman, who bore him these children: Parthena, C. P., Almira, Matilda, F. M., and William W. and George W., the last two twins. The mother of these children died September 4, 1855, in full communion with the Methodist Church. In the month of June, 1860, Mr. Hudson married Mrs. Parmelia F. Jackson, a daughter of John Watson, a Virginian. Three children were the fruits of this union: R. Victoria, Thomas J. and Itaska M. Mrs. Hudson is still living, but is now seventy-one years of age. Our subject spent his early life in assisting on the home place and in attending the common schools of the county. When eighteen years old he began teaching, and continued this and made his home with his parents until 1863, when he married. Then began his struggle of life in reality. His father gave him ninety acres of land, and to this he added from time to time until he had a good-sized tract. However, in 1872 he sold out and came to his present farm, where he first bought 327 acres. That has since been increased until he now owns 400 acres of excellent land, over 250 acres under cultivation and 50 acres of rich bottom land. This farm is one of the best in the county, and attests by its productiveness to the thrift and industry of its owner. Mr. Hudson is interested in stock-raising, and in this, as in farming, has been unusually successful. In June, 1863, he was married to Miss Helen B. Holland, daughter of Isaac Holland, a minister in the Methodist Church and a native of Virginia, yet living in Pleasant County that State. Seven children have been given our subject and

wife: Lella A., married Riley Thomas; Stonewall J., married and lives on a farm in Pleasant County; Martha M., married J. W. Rollins; Nora; Sarah E.; George H., and Gertrude, the last four at home. Mr. and Mrs. Hudson are members of the Methodist Protestant Church, and he has twice been a delegate to the general conference, and frequently to the annual conference. He takes a decided interest in public affairs, but has never aspired to public office, although while a resident of Lewis County he held the position of Deputy Sheriff. In politics he is strictly Democratic, although his county is Republican.

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## T. E. WILSON.

Enterprising measures and progressive methods are business requirements of the nineteenth century, and few men engaged in merchandising in Tucker County, West Virginia, have shown these qualifications in a more marked degree than T. E. Wilson, who was one of the first merchants of the Town of Davis. He was born in Alleghany County, Maryland, October 1, 1841, on his father's farm, and in that county secured a good, practical education. When twenty years of age he commenced teaching school, and followed this for about six years with great success. Although reared on a farm young Wilson did not like the drudgery on the same, but for some time was in a woolen factory and afterward clerked in his father's store, thus avoiding farm work. While teaching the young idea how to shoot, he studied for the ministry for a number of years, and first belonged to the Pittsburgh Conference. He preached for one year in Ohio and carried on nine revivals during that time and many were converted. On account of failing health he stopped preaching and for seven years was engaged in house-painting. After that he was put on the West Virginia Conference and preached in the Methodist Churches there for two years. Resigning he again took up his brush, and after two years began peddling, which he followed for three years. He carried a good line of dry goods, notions, silks and jewelry, but met with an accident, and on account of his health went to Florida. With health restored he came to Davis, a very new place then (1886), with a population of about fifty, and erected a residence and a store-room. There were no mills nor any of the present industries, but he soon opened a general store, which he has conducted successfully since. For some time he dealt in

tan bark and lumber, and was an important factor in bringing the mills, tannery, etc., here. He was the first to carry on a business of any magnitude at this place. Mr. Wilson's parents, John and Mary (Tuell) Wilson, were natives of Maryland and Pennsylvania, respectively. The grandfather, Nathan Wilson, was also a native of Maryland, and of English origin. He was a splendid man physically, seven feet tall and large in proportion. John Wilson served many years as Justice of the Peace, and although he never pretended to practice law, he was a good, common-sense lawyer and an able counselor. He always lived on and conducted a large farm, but carried on a woolen mill and owned a large store besides. During the latter part of his life he resided at Flintstone, Maryland, and there died about 1889. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, as was also his wife, who passed away about six months previous to his death. Of their eleven children one died young. The others were: Atcy, wife of John H. Wilson; James F.; Nathan, died in 1884; T. E., our subject; George; John (deceased); Huldah (deceased), was the wife of D. Parren; Anna (deceased); O. S. and Simeon. In the year 1871 our subject was married at Martinsburg, West Virginia, to Miss Susan Staater, daughter of Henry Staater of Pennsylvania, and a farmer and merchant of prominence. He was of German origin. To Mr. and Mrs. Wilson were born four children: Lilly, wife of Joseph Dodge, a baker of Davis; Emery C., at home, as are Mary M. and Neil L. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a stanch Prohibitionist. When our subject first came to Davis there was no place of worship, and he conducted the first services in private residences. The town now has six churches and the people are cultured and refined.

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## HON. C. M. BISHOP.

In studying the lives and character of prominent men we are naturally led to inquire into the secret of their success. We find that in nearly every case they are those who have risen gradually fighting their way in the face of opposition. Self-reliance, conscientiousness, energy, honesty, these are the traits of character that insure the highest emoluments and greatest success. To these traits may be attributed the success that has fallen to the lot of Hon.

C. M. Bishop, an old-time resident of Preston County and a man well and favorably known in Northern West Virginia. Mr. Bishop was born in Hardy County, that State, January 4, 1827, and inherits sturdy German blood from his paternal ancestors. His father, Colonel Adam Bishop, was a native of Shepherdstown, Virginia, whither the grandfather had removed from the Keystone State, where he was one of the first settlers. Adam Bishop grew to manhood in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, and was married in Winchester, West Virginia, to Miss Ann Rebecca Riley, a native of that city, where she was reared and educated. Mr. Bishop was engaged in the hotel business, and was also actively engaged in the real estate business. In the year 1842 he came to Preston County and in the last days of November settled at Kingwood, where he engaged in the saddle and harness business. He employed several hands, conducting an extensive business, and made considerable money. Later he moved to Taylor County and located in Fetterman, and passed the remainder of his days retired from the active duties of life. He held a number of local positions of trust and honor. During the early days he served as Colonel of the militia. His death occurred at Fetterman when seventy-two years old, following his wife who had preceded him four years before. C. M. Bishop is one of a family of five sons and one daughter, all of whom grew to mature years and became heads of families. At the present time three besides our subject are living, two brothers and a sister. The eldest, F. D. Bishop, removed to Monticello, Mississippi, and from there to Texas, where he was engaged in farming and where his last days were spent. Another brother, Joseph B., resides in Oakland, Maryland, where for many years he followed merchandising but is now retired. Another, Dr. J. A. Bishop, is a physician and broker of Philippi, West Virginia. The sister, Ann R. C., has never married, and is now residing in Evansville, Preston County. C. M. Bishop was about seventeen years of age when he came with his parents to Kingwood, and in the different sections in which he lived he secured a fair education. He was married near Kingwood July 1, 1851, to Miss Margaret E. Morris, a native of Preston County, and daughter of Reuben and Margaret Morris, old settlers of that county. Following his marriage Mr. Bishop engaged in merchandising at Rowlesburgh in 1851, established a successful business and soon started a branch store at Aurora. For twenty-five years he was actively engaged in business at the former place, but after that he removed to Kingwood, but still continued his stores at Rowlesburgh and Aurora until 1876. He also dealt in real estate to some extent. In 1876 he embarked in merchandising in Kingwood, and this, with



*C. M. Bishop*





all his other enterprises, has brought him good returns. His capital at the present time is largely invested in bank stocks, and he is vice-president of the Bank of Kingwood. In summing up the events of his life, it can be stated that his career has been such as to warrant the trust and confidence of the business world that he has always transacted his business matters in an honorable way, and that he has the trust and respect of all who have had dealings with him. Mr. Bishop has been identified with the Republican party since its organization, or since 1856. He has held several local offices, was elected to the House of Delegates in 1869, and so ably did he discharge the duties of that honorable position that he was re-elected and served two terms. He served on the Finance and other committees, and later was elected to the State Senate from 1872 to 1876, where he also served on the Finance Committee during the entire time, and special committees. For several years he has served as president of the Board of Supervisors of the county, but for the last few years he has given his entire attention to his business. His marriage resulted in the birth of six children, three of whom died in infancy or early childhood. The eldest, W. Eugenia, became the wife of John H. Brown, of Kingwood; Lulu, is the wife of J. Frank Brown, who is cashier of the Philippi Bank, and C. Z. Bishop married and resides at home. Mr. and Mrs. Bishop are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the former is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Rowlesburgh Lodge, having joined the same in 1856. He has served through all the chairs and is at present Past Grand.

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## SQUIRE BOSWORTH HART.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Edward Hart, came to Randolph County, Virginia, from New Jersey, in 1785. He and his brother, Daniel, located at the present site of Beverly and up the valley of Files Creek. They were the sons of John Hart, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Edward and Daniel were both soldiers in the War of Independence, and at the close came direct to this section. Edward's son, Joseph Hart, was born in Randolph County and reared near Beverly. He became a prominent lawyer and was also noted in political and public affairs. He was elected to the State Legislature, served two terms, and was also Sheriff

of Randolph County and President of the County Court. He practiced law until about the beginning of the Civil War, but previous to this, in 1855, he moved to the summit of Rich Mountain, where he made a home for the benefit of his family's health. This farm became the site of the Battle of Rich Mountain, and his house was directly between the lines. The family was ordered away and the house became the hospital for the Confederate soldiers. Many of the killed were buried on this farm. Mr. Hart and family moved to a sister's in Illinois in September, 1862, but in 1865 they returned to the Mountain home, where the father died, April 4, 1881. He was a member of the Protestant Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife, whose maiden name was Susan Pickins, was born in Randolph County, West Virginia, and the daughter of John Pickins, a native of Pennsylvania, who came to Virginia in an early day and settled in Bath County. In Randolph County, near Beverly, our subject was born in 1841. He was educated in the common schools, and in 1862 enlisted in Battery E, First West Virginia Light Artillery, and served in the Valley of Virginia. He was at Wheeling at the close of the war, and came back home when the father returned from Illinois. Later he began teaching school as his health was poor and he had been wounded. After teaching for several years, or until 1867, he was elected County Superintendent of Schools and re-elected in 1869. Since then he has been farming with much success. In 1849, the father had opened a coal mine on the top of Rich Mountain, but little coal was taken out until after the war. In 1870 our subject bought this farm and soon began mining quite extensively. He is now operating a vein of four feet, almost on the summit of the mountain, and on the site of the battle. He supplies all the local demand. He also owns 1,300 acres of good timber land. Mr. Hart was married August 19, 1868, to Miss Mariah L. Morgan, a native of Upshur County, and they have one daughter, Anna Grace. Mr. and Mrs. Hart are members of the Presbyterian Church, and are well thought of in the community.

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## HUGH GARRETT.

Hugh Garrett is an honorable and progressive farmer, and it is doubtless entirely owing to the industrious and persevering manner with which he has adhered to the pursuits of agriculture that he has reached his present independent position. Mr. Garrett was born in Harrison County, on Davidson's

Run, in 1832, and is a son of John and Jane (Cooper) Garrett, both natives of County Down, Ireland, and both born in the year 1786, the former the 7th of September and the latter February 10. The father had limited educational advantages in his youth and as he grew older a desire to better his financial condition caused him to cross the ocean to the United States in 1816. He was married near Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in 1819, and about two years later made his way to Harrison County, West Virginia, and settled near Clarksburg. Later he moved near the head of Davidson's Run, in the woods, and there improved a good farm, and died in 1881, November 5. His wife had passed away May 25, 1869. Both for many years were members of the Presbyterian Church. Two of Mr. Garrett's brothers, James and Hugh, afterward came to the United States, and settled in Harrison County. The grandfather, William Garrett, probably spent all his life in Ireland, and was a linen-bleacher. Our subject's maternal grandfather, William Cooper, came from Ireland to this country with his family in 1803, and first located in Pennsylvania. About 1819 he moved to Harrison County, West Virginia, and here died about 1856. Of the six children born to his parents, our subject was the youngest. The others are: Mary, wife of James L. Romine; Nancy (deceased), was the wife of William Thompson; Hester (deceased) became the wife of James H. Fox. James was three times wedded; first to Martha Keys, second to Druzilla Payne, his third wife was Sarah Reed. All are now deceased. Elizabeth first married George Keys, then John Scott and then Jeff. Broadwater. Hugh Garrett, the youngest, was reared with but limited educational advantages, and began life's battles for himself, when twenty-one years old.

In 1851 he was married to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of George A. Summerville, who came from Ireland, and settled in Harrison County, Virginia, in an early day. Mrs. Garrett was born on Davidson's Run and died January 5, 1860. She was the mother of two children: Columbia (died in infancy) and John T. In 1862, Mr. Garrett married Miss Sarah A. Monroe, daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Simpkins) Monroe, natives of Hampshire County, where Mrs. Monroe died in 1838. Mr. Monroe afterward married again and subsequently came to Harrison County, where he died in 1881. He was a teacher in early life, but later became a farmer. He was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church, and in politics a Democrat. For many years before his death he was afflicted with rheumatism. His father, James Monroe, was of Scotch descent. To Mr. and Mrs. Garrett were born nine children, as follows: James M., Robert A., William M., Walker C., Jennie E., Martha

Grace, Cora E., Onia L., and Hugh E. Since 1854, Mr. Garrett has lived on his present farm and now owns 175 acres, nearly all the result of his own industry. In politics he is a Democrat and his first Presidential vote was cast for James Buchanan.

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## DAVID SHERWOOD.

This upright and energetic gentleman was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, June 19, 1813, and his youthful days were advantageously spent on a farm, and in acquiring a practical education in the common schools. His parents, Joseph and Mary (Tefanver) Sherwood, were of English and German descent respectively, and the former was born in the State of Delaware. He was a son of Daniel Sherwood, who moved from Delaware to Pennsylvania about 1800, and was his only child. Upon growing up he became a farmer and followed that occupation throughout life. His marriage resulted in the birth of nine children, two of whom died young. Those living to be grown were: David; Sarah and Mary (twins), the former of whom married W. Richards, and died leaving eight children, and the latter married Robert Howard, by whom she had one child, and after his death she wedded E. Taylor. She died in 1893, having become the mother of three children by her last husband. John settled in Doddridge County and died in February, 1894. Joseph is a farmer of this county. Elizabeth married Enos Bee, and upon her death left two daughters; and Samuel T., who is a farmer of this county. The father died in 1873, followed by his wife, in 1879. They were earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he was a Democrat up to 1856, when he joined the ranks of the Republicans, affiliating with them to the day of his death. In 1834, David Sherwood accompanied his father to West Virginia, and here he taught school up to 1841. While still in Pennsylvania he began fitting himself for a surveyor, and in 1842 he purchased from the old surveyor of this section his instruments, and from him received about four days of practical instruction, after which he began following this occupation. He acted as Deputy Surveyor of Harrison County under Thomas Haman, and after the formation of Doddridge County, he became its Deputy Surveyor, which position he filled until 1850, when he was made County Surveyor, which position he has filled up to the present time, a period of forty-five years. From 1860 to 1865 he farmed and operated a

saw-mill, but the most of his attention has been given to surveying. He has all the plats and records of the county, is a notary public and makes deeds. From February, 1852, to November, 1853, he was with the engineering corps laying the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and he has done surveying in all the adjoining counties, and has also done a great deal of work for large land owners in other States. He knows all the original landmarks in Doddridge County, is the principal surveyor and conveyancer of this part of the State and is yet hale and hearty at the age of eighty-one years. In politics he is a Republican. He is unmarried.

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### G. M. BURNS.

In the early stages of American history necessity goaded the wits of the handful of individuals who found homes in America along the Atlantic seaboard, and the imprint of their great mental activity, ingenuity and enterprise has been left upon their descendants, which has been felt down to the present. This is especially true of the race of Scotch-Irish from whom G. M. Burns sprung, and his far more than average energy and push have found vent along the lines of lumber manufacture, of which he has had a knowledge from early boyhood. The plant with which he is now connected was first founded in 1866, at which time J. M. Burns, his elder brother, brought a portable saw-mill to this region, and successfully operated the same alone for ten years, at the end of which time one of his brothers became associated with him. The firm then took the style of Burns & Co., and so continued until 1871, when J. R. Huffman, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, the inventor of the band-saw, became a member of the firm and it was then known as Burns Bros. & Huffman. Very soon thereafter they erected a large two-story building and put in one of the Huffman saws, which increased the capacity of the mill to 15,000 feet per day and gave employment to thirty hands. Mr. Huffman continued a member of the firm for about eight years, then the brothers purchased his interest and the firm name once more became Burns Bros. At an early day the members of the firm began purchasing timber land in various portions of West Virginia, and yet hold large tracts. They are now operating two plants in this State, one at Elizabeth and the other at Sattes, the latter of which will cut about 15,000,000 feet of lumber

per year, and the former 12,000,000. They have large planing mills and are well prepared to supply lumber for the largest contract. In connection with their mills they are conducting a general mercantile business, which has been found profitable to them and convenient to their patrons. They purchased the land upon which the present Town of Burnsville stands soon after their arrival and after getting their mill in good working order, laid out the town and gave it their own name. In 1881, they had the place re-surveyed and platted and it is now quite a flourishing settlement, with two good hotels, a large academy school building, a furniture store, three general stores, a Presbyterian Church and a number of excellent private dwelling houses, one of the finest of which is that of G. M. Burns, the immediate subject of this sketch. The place comprises about 200 souls who have purchased their homes and the land upon which their places of business are erected of the Burns Bros. The founder of the lumber business, J. M. Burns, is dead and the present members of the firm are G. M. and David Burns, the latter of whom is a resident of Parkersburg, West Virginia. G. M. Burns was born in Marion County, West Virginia, March 8, 1847, and was reared on his father's farm. At the opening of the Civil War he and his two brothers left their plows to enter the Confederate service, joining the Twentieth Virginia Cavalry, "Stonewall" Jackson's Division, and although all saw hard service until the close of the war, they were neither wounded nor captured. Their parents, Benjamin and Margaret (Stewart) Burns, were Pennsylvanians, the father's birthplace being Westernport. Although the greater part of his attention was given to farming he was also engaged in lumbering to some extent and his sons thus acquired some knowledge of the business. His family consisted of eight children: James, John, Mary, Alfred, Samson, Mattie, David and Gideon M. The brothers and sisters of Benjamin Burns were: Mariah, wife of Silas Reece, to whom were born James, Daniel, Ellen, Philadelphia, William, John, Samuel, Mariah and Mary; Patsey, wife of William Shaw, became the mother of Patsey, Maggie, Bruce, Clay, John, James and Benjamin; James married Nancy Ingman, and to them were born William, Silas, Delphia, James, Benjamin and Laura; William married Abbie M. Morris, and to them were born Fannie, Mary, Martha, Brice, Morris, Minnie, Guy, Millie and Lily and Philadelphia. These are the children of William H. and Philadelphia (Burbridge) Burns, grandparents of the immediate subject of this sketch, Gideon M. Burns. The latter was married in 1874 to Miss Maggie J. Campbell, a daughter of Samuel J. Campbell, and to their union the following children were given: Charley, Dana, Minnie, Fay

and Mary. Mr. Burns and his wife are members and regular attendants of the Presbyterian Church, and socially he is a member of the Knights of Pythias. As a business man he has met with remarkable success and has become very widely known as a public-spirited citizen. No man in the county ranks higher than does he, nor has there been one who has done more to build up the section in which he lives. He has succeeded as he in every way deserved to do, and he has many warm personal friends.

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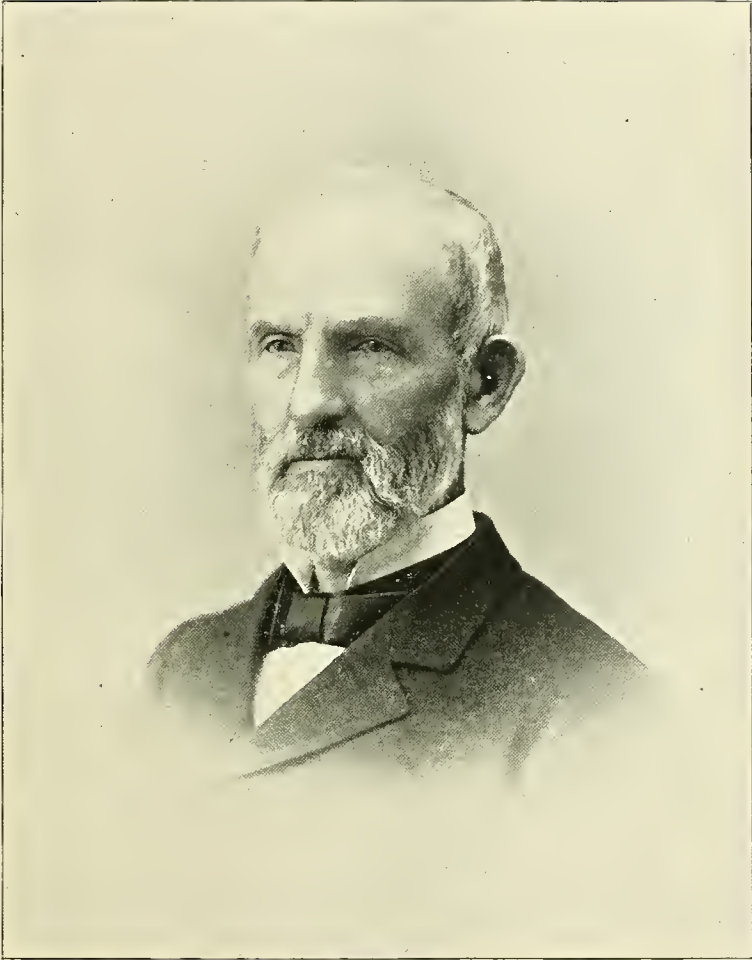
### HON. JAMES C. MCGREW.

He whose name heads this sketch is a well-known business man and financier of the northern part of West Virginia. He is a native of Virginia, and of Scotch-Irish extraction. His maternal grandfather, James Clark, came to America from the North of Ireland about the year 1762; and his paternal great-grandfather, John McGrew, came to this country from Scotland about the year 1760. The former settled in Monongalia County, Virginia, and the latter in the Valley of Virginia, but subsequently moved into Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, where the father of the subject of this sketch was born, and who, when seven years of age, came to Virginia with the family of his father, Patrick McGrew, who settled in Monongalia County. James C. McGrew was born September 14, 1813, in what is now Preston County, West Virginia. His father was Colonel James McGrew, who had command of a regiment of Virginia troops in the War of 1812 with England, and who died at his home near the Village of Brandonville at the advanced age of ninety-five years. His mother was Isabella Clark. He was educated in the common schools of the country, where he acquired a sound, practical English education, which fitted him well for the career that opened before him in after life. When not in school he worked upon his father's farm until he was nineteen years of age, at which time he entered the employ of Harrison and Elisha M. Hagans, as clerk in their general store in Kingwood, where he received a thorough business training. His principal business from 1840 to 1860 was that of a merchant, in which he was fairly successful.

In 1841, he married Persis Hagans, eldest daughter of Harrison Hagans, then a resident of Brandonville, Virginia, but now deceased. After marriage,

Mr. McGrew located permanently in Kingwood, and continues to reside there, in the house he built for a home soon after he married. His wife died in 1893. They had three children, two sons and one daughter. William C., whose wife is a daughter of ex-United States Senator W. T. Willey, was educated in the common schools and the Preston Academy; was at one time a member of the Senate of West Virginia, and is now an agent of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad; located at Morgantown, West Virginia. Sarah M., the daughter, is the wife of Francis Heermans, an active and prominent citizen of Preston County. George H., the second son, is a graduate of Wesleyan University, Middleton, Connecticut; of Harvard Law School, and of Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, New Jersey, and is now a Protestant Episcopal clergyman of the City of New York. Mr. McGrew never sought public office. He can say what few men can who have been before the people for their votes: that is, that he never offered himself as a candidate for any office or position, and never solicited any man to vote for him. Although he took little part in public affairs previous to 1861, he was early known as a Whig, and upon the formation of the Republican party he identified himself with it, and espoused its principles. In 1860, he was elected by the voters of Preston County, a delegate to the Virginia Convention which met in the City of Richmond on the 13th of February, 1861, and which passed an ordinance of secession on the 17th of the following April. He was one of the fifty-five members who opposed the secession of the State, and voted against the passage of the ordinance. Soon after the ordinance was passed, he and twenty-one other Union men held a secret meeting in a bedroom of a hotel near the Capitol, where measures of opposition to secession were outlined and agreed upon; and in accordance therewith, he and eleven other members, on the following day, quietly quitted Richmond and returned to their homes. Upon his return he at once engaged actively in the movement which led to the reorganization of the State Government, and ultimately in the division of the State, and the erection of the State of West Virginia. For his participation in these important proceedings he was, with ten other members, expelled from the Secession Convention. West Virginia was organized as a State on the 20th of June, 1863. He was a member of the First and Second Legislatures of the new State, and did valuable and efficient service in altering the laws of the old State, and adapting them to the Constitution, and the changed conditions of the new. In 1863, he was appointed a director of the State Asylum for Lunatics, then about to be erected at Weston, and served in that capacity until 1871, during which time a large portion of that





J. C. McGrew



immense building was completed and opened to receive patients. In 1865, he organized the National Bank of Kingwood, of which he was a director and cashier until 1870. After the death of W. G. Brown, first president of the bank, Mr. McGrew was elected to fill the vacancy and continues to hold the office to the present time. In 1868, although he had not offered himself as a candidate, he was put in nomination and elected to represent the Second District of West Virginia in Congress. He was re-elected in 1870, and served two terms with distinction. While he was in Congress he served on the Committee of Railways and Canals, of Public Land Claims, of Freedmen's Affairs, and as chairman of the Committee on Mileage. He declined a nomination for a third term, and returned to give attention to his private affairs, and his duties as president of the bank. In 1881 he was appointed by authority of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a delegate to the Ecumenical Conference, which met in London, England, September 7, 1881. When that body adjourned, he traveled somewhat extensively in England, Scotland, the continent of Europe, Greece, Turkey, Northern Syria, Palestine, Egypt and India; returning home in 1882. For a number of years he has been a trustee of Ohio Wesleyan University, an institution second to none in the United States for the careful and successful training of young people of both sexes, in literature, science, and religion. He has been an active and thorough business man from early life, until the Winter of 1893, when he met with an accident in Florida which came near being fatal, and which has partially disabled him for active business. He is a man of unblemished reputation; is popular with the people, and has been altogether a valuable citizen to the county and State in which his life has been spent.

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## HON. WILLIAM LYNE WILSON.

Hon. William L. Wilson, LL. D., was born in Jefferson County, Virginia, May 3, 1843. He was the only child of Benjamin Wilson by his second wife, who was Mary Whiting Lyne. Benjamin Wilson was a native of King and Queen County, Virginia, and Mary Lyne, although born in Jefferson, was a resident of that county from early infancy to the time of her marriage with him. Benjamin Wilson lost his father in childhood, but enjoyed the training of one of the foremost teachers of Virginia at that day, the Rev. Dr. Robert

Baylor Semple, at his classical school, Mordington, in King and Queen. His scholarship and character were such that when Dr. Semple was requested by his kinsman, William Baylor, of Jefferson, to send him a tutor for his children he selected young Wilson. Benjamin Wilson henceforward made Jefferson County his home, and for some years made teaching his profession. He died before his son William was four years old, leaving the injunction that he should be thoroughly educated. Mrs. Wilson, who was as marked by shrinking modesty as by devoted piety, gave herself to this duty with a singleness of purpose only equaled by her faith in the future usefulness and distinction of her son. He was first taught by a maiden aunt, Miss Lucy Lyne, who was scarcely less devoted to him than his mother, and then attended the Charlestown Academy, where he was noted for his quick mind and studious habits. By the age of fifteen he had read more Latin, Greek and French than is required of college graduates, although mathematics was his favorite study. He then entered the junior class of Columbian College, D. C., and graduated in 1860 at the age of seventeen, one of his classmates being Colonel Daniel D. Johnson, of Tyler County. He was offered a tutorship in the college, but preferred to go at once to the University of Virginia, expecting to remain there several years. The outbreak of the war thwarted this expectation, and Mr. Wilson left school and entered the Confederate army as a private in Company B, Twelfth Virginia Cavalry. He served the last years of the war and was Sergeant-Major of the regiment at the time of the surrender at Appomattox.

In June, 1865, he was offered the place of assistant professor of ancient languages in Columbian College, Washington, D. C., which he accepted, and while teaching there also attended lectures in the law department. He graduated in law in 1867, but being promoted to the full chair of Latin continued in his professorship until 1871, when he resigned and began the practice of law in Charlestown. He soon formed a partnership with his cousin, George Baylor, and had, almost from the start, a full practice, being not only prominent as an advocate, but largely entrusted with judicial business.

He took little active part in politics until 1880, when he was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention which nominated General Hancock for President, and he subsequently made a canvass of his State as candidate for Elector-at-Large on the Hancock ticket, which attracted much attention from his party friends.

In June, 1882, he was chosen by unanimous vote of the regents, president of the West Virginia University, and rather reluctantly accepted the position,

entering on his duties September 6, 1882. September 20, of that year, he was nominated by acclamation, as the Democratic candidate for Congress from the Second Congressional District, and the second Tuesday in October following, was elected.

At the beginning of his Congressional term, March 4, 1883, he resigned the presidency of the university, but at the request of the regents and students, served until the end of the session in June—refusing pay however for this period.

Mr. Wilson has been renominated for Congress, each succeeding two years since 1882, by his party, and until 1894 was as many times elected. That year he, with many others of his party, suffered defeat. From his first entry in the House he was recognized as a diligent, hard-working member, and in his second Congress was placed upon the Committee of Appropriations, the second highest committee, and attracted much attention by a speech on the Pension Bill, before the House.

Mr. Wilson was from the beginning of his public career an advocate of tariff reform and when President Cleveland by his message to the Fiftieth Congress made that the issue of the coming campaign, Mr. Wilson was placed by the Speaker on the Ways and Means Committee, the highest in the House, and was one of the framers of the "Mills Bill." His speech on the tariff, May 3, 1888, was received with great enthusiasm both in the House and in the country by tariff reformers, and was probably more widely reprinted and circulated than any other speech made in that famous debate.

In the Presidential campaign of 1888, Mr. Wilson was in great demand on the hustings and spoke in many States. He was one of the speakers selected to open the campaign at the great Cheltenham Beach meeting near Chicago, together with Allen G. Thurman, and subsequently to open the campaign in New York City, at the great business men's ratification, together with Secretary of the Treasury Fairchild. Besides his political prominence, Mr. Wilson has been honored in the field of scholarship. He is honorary member of many literary and scientific associations, has delivered a large number of college addresses, and has received the degree of Doctor of Laws from Columbian University, and Hampden Sidney College, Virginia. He was appointed a regent of the Smithsonian Institute in 1883, and again in 1885, on the part of the House of Representatives, and while holding this position was chosen by the board of regents, together with Prof. S. F. Baird, secretary of the Smithsonian, and Prof. Asa Gray, of Harvard, to supervise the publication of the scientific writings of Prof. Joseph Henry.

In 1868, Mr. Wilson married Miss Nannie Huntington, daughter of Rev. Dr. Huntington, of Columbian University, and has six children. In the organization of the Fifty-first Congress, Mr. Wilson was necessarily omitted from the Committee of Ways and Means, as his party being in the minority, was entitled to but five representatives, whom Speaker Reed naturally appointed in the order of their service; but he handsomely recognized Mr. Wilson by assigning him to the Judiciary Committee, always a post of dignity and prominence; to the Committee on Manufactures, which is temporarily important as dealing with proposed trust legislation; and also as one of the two Democratic members of the Special Committee appointed to investigate the ballot-box forgery matter in the Ohio campaign of 1889.

As a lawyer he stands among the first in the State. Not only versed in the principles of the law, he has the ability to present them effectively. As a public representative he joins the wisdom of the schools to practical experience, and thus far has shown that he has the courage of his convictions. His constituency indorse his official course, and have kept him in the halls of Congress continuously from March 4, 1883 to March 4, 1895.

Upon the assembling of the Fifty-third Congress, Speaker Crisp, recognizing his eminent fitness for the position, made him chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, and as such he became the author of the tariff law known as the Wilson Bill. His speeches in advocacy of this measure proved him to be one of the most thoroughly posted men on economic subjects in the country. Recently President Cleveland has appointed him Postmaster-General of the United States, a position he is eminently qualified to fill.

As well as a pleasant speaker, he is a classic and fluent writer. His educational addresses, miscellaneous essays, and contributions to political literature are numerous and scholarly. In personal appearance, Congressman Wilson retains a good many youthful characteristics in face and figure. Rather slightly built, he is wiry and muscular in his development and quick and active in his movements, and his whole physical organization indicates ability for sustained effort. He has a good-natured, but resolute face, and his keen grey eyes change readily from searching glances to twinkles of humor. A prominent nose and chin are marked features of his countenance, his well-developed head is fairly covered with light brown hair, and a moustache of the same color partly conceals the mouth. His lack of stature might enable him to pass unnoticed in a crowd, but a physiognomist would be likely to designate him as the possessor of intellectual force and vigor. In his manner

he is modest and unassuming, easily approached, friendly without familiarity, a good conversationalist, with a fund of humor that frequently asserts itself, and a disposition naturally genial, kindly and courteous.

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## HENRY ASH.

This busy and successful man of affairs is a native of Doddridge County, West Virginia, his birth occurring on the 28th of November, 1853. His early days were devoted to learning the details of agriculture on his father's farm, and he first began attending school when he had reached the age of twelve years, purchasing his books with money which he had obtained by working at odd jobs. In 1873, he began teaching school and followed this occupation during the Winter months and followed farming during the Summers until he entered the West Virginia College, at Flemington, after which he continued teaching up to 1881. From that time up to 1883 he was Deputy Sheriff, then turned his attention to mercantile pursuits at Center Point, of which establishment he is still the owner. In 1884 he was the Democratic nominee for County Sheriff, and to his credit be it said, that he was the only one on his ticket that was elected. After serving one term he gave his attention to the management of his store, but in 1890 left it to take upon himself the duties of Circuit Clerk, to which he had been elected in 1890, and this office he is filling at the present time. In 1889, with a number of others, he began the development of the oil fields of this county, but they sold out in June, 1894, and formed another company known as the Ash Oil Company, and since that time have leased large tracts of land and put down several paying wells, one being a gas well that has turned out satisfactorily. He is the son of Absolom and Susan (Barnard) Ash, the former of whom is the son of Jacob Ash, of Harrison County, and grandson of Christopher Ash, who came from the New England States to West Virginia, and became a surveyor. He settled in Harrison County and was the founder of the family in this section of West Virginia. He was of Dutch descent. His son Jacob participated in the War of 1812, and was a commissioned officer, but the rank is not known. Absolom Ash was engaged in farming throughout life, accumulated a large tract of land in McClellan District, which was divided among his heirs at his death, and gave them all an excellent start. His wife

was from Old Virginia, and the male members of her family were prosperous farmers. Her union with Mr. Ash resulted in the birth of five children, two of whom died young. Those who lived were: Henry; Marshall, who is living on the old homestead; and Zadock, who is a farmer and trader of Tyler County. The mother of these children died May 7, 1865, but the father is still living on the old homestead, and is sixty-five years of age. November 23, 1884, Henry Ash was married to Miss Florence O. Allen, daughter of Isaiah and Rebecca Allen, natives of Harrison County, and farmers by occupation. To them one child was given: Ethel Ash. Mr. Ash's second marriage occurred February 10, 1895, to Mrs. Mary Chenvent, who was born in Doddridge County, the daughter of William B. Ripley, who is deceased. The mother, Maggie M. (Jarvis) Ripley, yet resides in this county. The parents of William B. Ripley, Jacob and Elizabeth Ripley, came from Greene County, Pennsylvania, at an early day and were among the early settlers of this section of the country. John and Margaret Jarvis, the maternal grandparents of Mrs. Ash, were also among the early settlers of this section. The former died in 1860, but the latter survived him many years, and died at the age of ninety years.

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## HON. M. J. O'KANE.

The old saying that "A prophet is not without honor, save in his own country," which has come to be applied not only to prophets, but to men in nearly every walk in life, is most completely controverted in every community in the country by the manifestation of high esteem on the part of the people for able and honorable members of society and for upright, enterprising and useful business men. This is essentially true in the case of Hon. M. J. O'Kane, who is the active, capable and efficient servant of Uncle Sam, at Wheeling, Virginia. He was born in County Derry, Ireland, August 20, 1830, and at the age of nine years was brought to the United States by his mother, the father having come thither in 1833, and located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Here the remainder of their lives was spent. The father's name was James O'Kane. He and his wife became the parents of two sons and four daughters. James O'Kane, the eldest son, became First Lieutenant in the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, was captured by the enemy at Winchester, and for nine months was confined in Libby Prison. He now



makes his home in the City of Philadelphia. After his arrival in this country M. J. O'Kane was placed in the public schools of the Quaker City, and in 1860 embarked in business life for himself. In the latter part of the same year he came to Wheeling, engaged in the boot and shoe business as a member of the firm of O'Kane & Divine, and for nineteen years remained thus associated on Twelfth Street. The business was then carried on under the style of O'Kane & Co., on Main Street, Wheeling, and this business still receives the attention of Mr. O'Kane. When he first came to the city he manifested considerable interest in public affairs, and in 1889 he was chosen a member of the City Council from the Second Ward, being the first Democrat to receive such an election in that ward for twenty-four years. In 1891 he was re-elected to this office from the same ward with a majority of ninety-four votes, which speaks well for his popularity. The following Fall he was elected to represent the County of Ohio in the Legislature, and in discharging the duties of this responsible office showed himself to be competent, faithful to the interests of his section and party, and most certainly incorruptible. He was appointed to the office of Postmaster of Wheeling by President Cleveland, and in January, 1894, entered upon his duties. He is one of the most progressive men in the city, a useful, law-abiding and influential citizen and one of her most substantial business men. He was married in Philadelphia, in 1853, to Miss Nora Welch, by whom he has three sons and three daughters: Mary; Father O'Kane, who is the priest of the Cathedral of Wheeling, and secretary to Bishop Donihó; James, who is in the shoe store on Main Street; Hannah, Margaret and Johnny, who is attending college at Fordum, New York City. Mr. O'Kane and his family are Catholics. They have a comfortable home on Chaplin Street, and their friends are numbered by their acquaintances.

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## JOHN J. CONIFF.

As a usual thing age and experience are essentials to success in whatever branch of human endeavor a man may see fit to devote his life, but the case of John J. Coniff, who is still in the dawn of a successful career, is an exception, for he is already classed among the prominent attorneys of Wheeling, a city well represented by some of the country's most talented legal lights. He is a product of Newburgh, Preston County, West Virginia, born June 28,

1865, and the Irish blood in him is no doubt responsible for his ready wit and active mind.

His father, Peter Coniff, was born in County Clare, Ireland, and crossed the ocean to this country when a young man of twenty. He located at Newburgh, and there resided and followed merchandising for a number of years. From there he moved to Rowlesburgh, where he continued his former occupation until his death, in 1869. His wife is still living and makes her home at Rowlesburgh. Of the ten children born to this worthy couple all are deceased, except our subject and P. A., the latter a prominent lumberman. Young John J. Coniff was educated in the schools of Rowlesburgh, and when sixteen years old entered Rock Hill College, at Ellicott City, Maryland, and in 1886 graduated from that institution, standing at the head of his class. After this he passed a year as principal of the public schools at Rowlesburgh, and in the Fall of 1887 entered the Law Department of the University at Grovetown, in Washington, passed two years there, and graduated at the head of his class in 1889, gaining the prize of \$100 for first honors. The class membership was sixty-eight, and among this number were many bright young men, sons of some of the prominent statesmen of this country. In 1889, after leaving school, Mr. Coniff came to Wheeling and entered the law office of Captain B. B. Dovener, and was admitted to the bar the following year. In 1890 he became a member of the firm of Dovener & Coniff, and the same year entered the University of Virginia, at Charlottesville, and took the Summer course under Prof. Minor. Since that time he has given his entire attention to the practice of law. Socially he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Philo-historical Society, Knights of St. George, and Ancient Order Hibernians. In October, 1894, he married Miss Sallie Waterhouse, of Wheeling, daughter of John Waterhouse, one of the wholesale grocers of Wheeling. He and wife are members of the Catholic Church. During the first year of his legal practice our subject was selected by the Court of Appeals to defend Mr. Meyer for the murder of his wife, and he conducted the case with such ability that it immediately gave him a strong standing. Since then he has handled many criminal cases and has won an enviable reputation. His sturdy self-reliance, calm purpose, united with his signal ability, stamp him a man who cannot fail to make his way through life along paths that are high. Since 1894, when Captain B. B. Dovener was elected to Congress, Hr. Coniff has practiced his profession alone, and being a man of popular address, fine social qualities and marked originality of thought and expression, has won many warm friends.









